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Trustees' spending under fire

Report criticizes Catholic board for exorbitant perks

A culture of entitlement among Toronto Catholic trustees saw them hire relatives, double-dip on restaurant bills and approve car allowances and health benefits, despite being told by board staff and lawyers such perks weren't allowed, says a scathing report.

Trustee expenses have ballooned since 2003 and are now among the highest in the province — $100,000 per elected trustee compared to $67,000 in the Toronto public board and just $27,000 in the Dufferin-Peel Catholic board — because of the extra benefits and services trustees gave themselves, says provincial adviser Norbert Hartmann in his report Enhancing Public Trust And Confidence, released yesterday.

The Toronto Catholic District School Board's 12 elected trustees are paid $18,671 per year, but cost another $80,000 in other services and benefits, including an $18,000 discretionary fund, $8,600 car allowance, and $3,800 in technology expenses such as cellphone, Internet and printers.

Oliver Carroll, former chair and now budget chief, said the Hartmann report "sums up exactly what went wrong" and agrees there is a culture of entitlement.

"Basically, the board, and I'll include me in that, set up a process that left it up to individual trustees to sort out whatever they considered appropriate spending. The majority did the right thing, but three or four — a sizable majority — effectively helped themselves."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hartman's recommendations to Toronto Catholic District School Board trustees

- End medical, dental and life insurance coverage.
- Adopt a code of conduct similar to the city of Toronto's prohibiting trustees from hiring relatives.
- Revoke the $8,600 annual car allowance and only pay actual, out-of-pocket transportation expenses.
- Force trustees to return all equipment, computers, cellphones and office furniture at the end of their term instead of keeping them as personal property.
- Eliminate trustees' ability to transfer discretionary funds.

» celeb buzz p.34

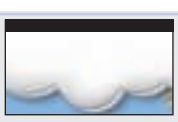
Dibs
Stella McCartney wants to design ScarJo's wedding dress

» mother's day inside

Sweet gift ideas for your mom

» newhomes inside

Fluorescent bulbs have changed



High 15°
Low 8°
WEATHER P. 33

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE PHOTO

Axe falls on Maurice

Paul Maurice, watching from behind Toronto Maple Leafs forwards John Pohl and Alex Steen during an NHL game this past season, was fired as the team's head coach yesterday. The Maple Leafs failed to make the playoffs in either season with Maurice behind the bench. Story, page 12.

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toronto

Science Rendezvous 2008, a free all-day festival of science, kicks off this Saturday all across the GTA. Universities, research institutions, and non-profit organizations have put together the event for kids of all ages. METRO NEWS SERVICES

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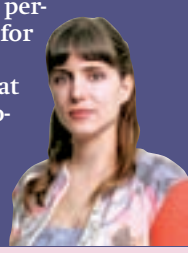

celebritybuzz

after the booze
Friends disappeared after she recovered from alcohol addiction, Mary J. Blige says. » 35

in tomorrow's metro

movies
Check out the review of Speed Racer, starring Emile Hirsch.

Slow changes urged

Committee rejects de-amalgamation of school board

Incremental change is the best way to reform how the Toronto public board is run, and a committee of trustees is recommending just that.

Told by Education Minister Kathleen Wynne to find a way to create a better, more efficient board by the end of May, the Toronto District School Board's governance committee yesterday decided to ask for more delegation powers as it moves to decentralize decision-making.

The recommendation will go to another committee and then the full board on May 21 for approval.

"Dramatic changes are inherently too risky for kids," said trustee Howard Goodman, the committee chair. "When we make dramatic change, odds are we are going to get it wrong."

His committee rejected de-amalgamation — breaking up into smaller, independent boards — as "harmful to student achievement."

The board is just now recovering from almost a decade of upheavals that followed amalgamation of Toronto's old cluster of boards, and it's better to make any changes slowly, he added.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

couple of choices

» Chair John Campbell says the board is leaning to either a powerful, executive-type committee or setting up community councils.

florist's death

Two men charged with murder

CRIME Two men already in custody on unrelated robbery charges have now been charged with first-degree murder in the death of Toronto florist Felicia Hosany.

Toronto police have charged Andre Clarke, 33, and Nevin Joseph, 22, both of Toronto, with Hosany's murder. The pair were scheduled to appear in court at 1000 Finch Ave. W. this morning.

Hosany, 51, was discovered Feb. 28 with her nose and mouth covered with duct tape in her flower shop, Flowers by Felicia.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

»news
In Brief

» **BOARD** Toronto school board trustees will vote on a plan later this month to open an Africentric alternative high school in 2010. The motion was approved last night by a school board committee as an extension of a proposal to open an Africentric alternative school from kindergarten to Grade 5 in September 2009.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

RON BULL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

David Mirvish, third from right, announces the purchase of the Canon and Panasonic theatres yesterday as the cast of the successful musical We Will Rock You surrounds him.

Theatre deal spurs lawsuit

Toronto theatre titans David Mirvish and Aubrey Dan brought their fight for two Toronto theatres into the public eye when early yesterday morning a press release from Dan revealed he had commenced legal proceedings against Toronto's Mirvish Productions and New York-based Key Brand Entertainment.

At issue was the sale of the Panasonic and Canon theatres to Mirvish, which Dan claims is in violation of the management agreement Dancap had signed with Key Brand.

Key Brand response

» Key Brand CEO John Gore says, "Nothing in Key Brand's agreement with Dancap in any way restricts our ability to sell the Canon and Panasonic theatres to Mirvish."

Mirvish called a press conference at the Canon Theatre last night, where he came out smiling, cheerfully announcing his purchase of the two theatres, as the cast of We Will Rock You, in costume, surrounded him.

He said the hit show had to close because of other bookings at the Canon. But he was going to reopen it July 16 at the Panasonic Theatre instead.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Dump truck protest to clog GTA highways

Hundreds of dump trucks are massed in a Mississauga parking lot, readying for a slow-moving protest this morning along some of Toronto's busiest highways.

Their drivers, members of the Ontario Dump Truck Association, are calling attention to what a leader calls "inhumane working conditions" that include 12-hour days, overloaded rigs and low wages that haven't been increased in five years.

"It's a safety issue," said the association's Harsimran Gill. "Our trucks are supposed to carry 21 tonnes. But every time we are pulled on a scale, it's around 28, 29, sometimes 30 tonnes in there.

"That's dangerous, not only for the driver, but for everyone else on the road."

The drivers, who truck dirt from new subdivisions and other excavation sites in rigs that can cost more than $200,000, also complain they haven't had a rate increase since it was set at $75 an hour in 2003.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

route

» The protest will begin about 10 a.m., heading west on Derry to Highway 410, south to Highway 401 and east across Toronto to the Don Valley Parkway. Trucks will move south to the Gardiner Expressway, west to Highway 427, north to the 401 and west to 410. They will then go east on Steeles Avenue and south on Dixie, to disperse at the lot.

Feedback from readers

IN TRANSIT
ED DRASS
transit@eddrass.com

Last week, I stated my belief that most TTC workers recognize their top priority is moving people — despite contrary appearances when riders were stranded by the transit strike of April 26. Some readers see it differently.

Michael Forest of Toronto writes, "The majority of transit workers I have encountered in my 25 odd years of taking the TTC in Toronto are discourteous. Every rider I know has many stories about how the TTC employees they encounter are unpleasant, sometimes rude, rarely helpful and, on the whole, unapproachable.

"I believe this issue stems from a couple problems in our society: One (is that) people end up in jobs they do not want. If you do not like dealing with people, do not take a job in customer service. If you have to take a job in customer service because you cannot find anything else, then deal with it ... do not take out your problems on patrons."

Tony Rauchberger of Toronto writes that after TTC employees were legislated back to work, the media "painted the response from customers as being understanding and hospitable in the aftermath. I myself am a huge supporter of workers' rights and have been polite and respectful to compensate for recent struggles. Unfortunately, I have not received the same response from TTC staff in return."

He worries that poor service indicates a much larger problem: "Lack of funds, lack of effort and leadership at the federal, provincial AND municipal levels have created a situation among workers that may be difficult to reverse. Coming from a long-standing customer who has a vested interest in saving the environment, I have lost faith in the TTC and I have lost faith in the government's reputed environmental conscience."

Krystyna Czerska of Etobicoke points out, "Common courtesy applies to everybody and every profession. Maybe we should start teaching this subject in schools."

William LeMasurier of Scarborough sent me many examples of TTC employees serving customers in exemplary, but also unacceptable, ways. He writes, "My experience has shown that roughly 10 to 15 per cent of the drivers and employees of the TTC are well-meaning ... and understand that they are in a position of customer service and do their best to greet customers, announce stops (and) drive safely." He adds, "The remaining percentage of TTC staffers display indifference to the riders, discourtesy or out-and-out contempt for those who provide the need for their services each day."

Debbie Saunders of Toronto agreed with my suggestion that riders be courteous to TTC workers regardless of the return treatment, but she replies, "Transit employees should also be held accountable to treat all their riders, (their customers) with genuine courtesy!"

Ed Drass has been covering transportation issues in Toronto since 1998. He has a degree in urban studies from York University and regularly rides transit in the GTA and elsewhere.

Ministry official facing false document charges

A ministry of transportation employee is facing charges after police found individuals were getting valid driver's licences using fake documents.

"Basically what was happening was that there were forged documents being brought in as identification," said OPP Det. Staff Sgt. Jim Gorry.

The forged "foundation documents" included British passports, Canadian citizenship cards and Ontario birth certificates with fictitious names and personal details, police said.

Riyaz Jaffer, 52, of Toronto has been charged with breach of trust. He has been released on a promise to reappear in a Brampton court on June 25.

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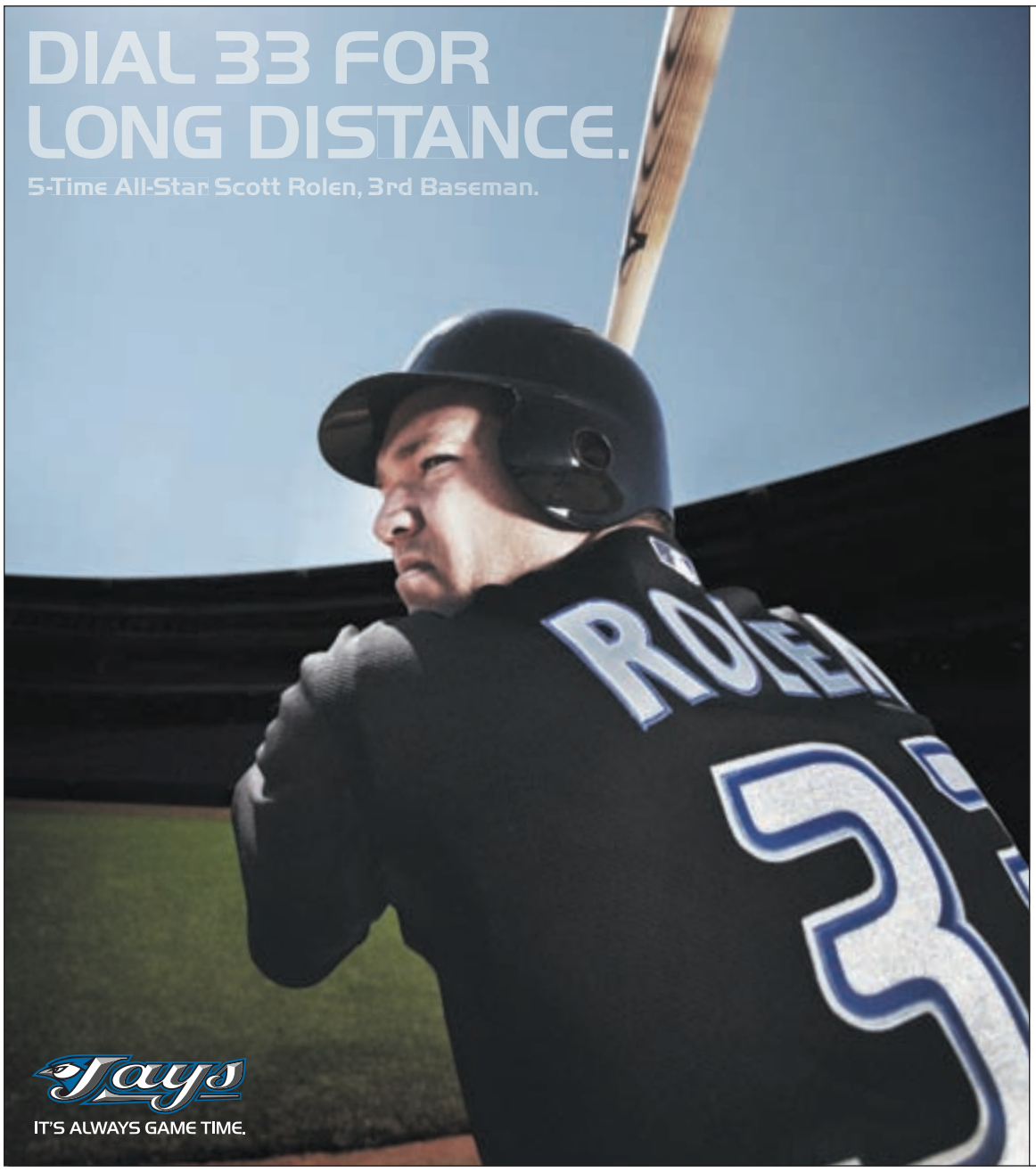

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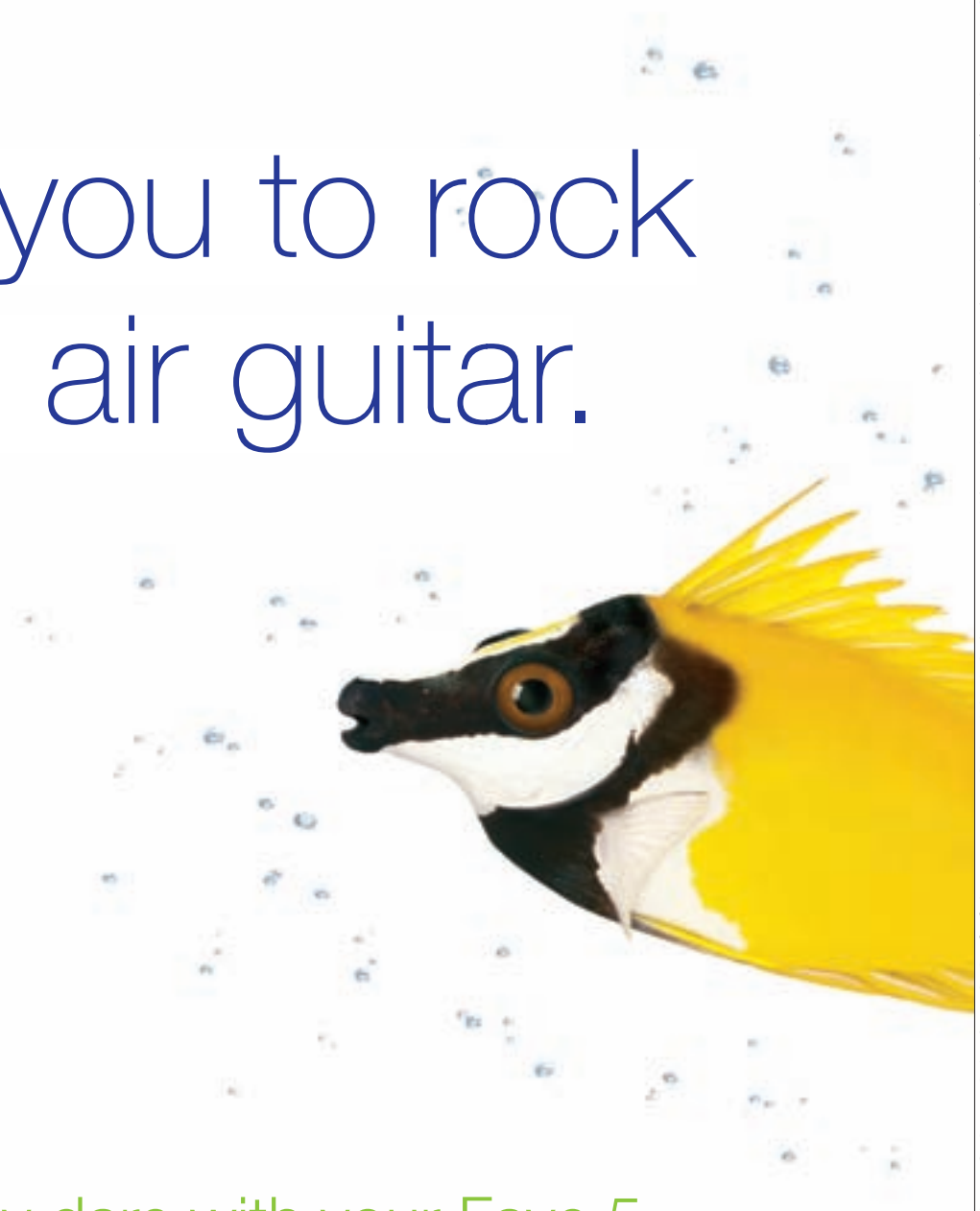

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canada

Government documents show Tory cabinet minister Bev Oda, left, spent almost $17,000 on limos during the Conservative government's first 15 months in office. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Thumbs up for carbon tax

Green-friendly system supported by Canadians: Poll

A new poll suggests most Canadians support the idea of a carbon tax — but an overwhelming majority favour the broader principle of using the tax system to punish or reward environmental behaviour.

The findings of The Canadian Press Harris-Decima survey suggest the politically risky move of putting a price on carbon holds a potential payoff.

The federal Liberals are weighing a plank in their platform that would put a price on pollution — and Environment Minister John Baird ridiculed them yesterday for considering what he characterizes as a tax grab.

But when asked whether they supported the idea of a carbon tax on businesses and people based on the carbon emissions they generate, 61 per cent of poll respondents said yes and 32 per cent said no.

Respondents in every province and age category expressed support for the idea, including oil-rich Alberta where 65 per cent of those surveyed backed the notion.

Support levels grew significantly — to as high as 80 per cent — when respondents were asked a variety of questions about tailoring the tax system to broader environmental causes.

Harris-Decima president Bruce Anderson says it's not clear how a carbon tax would play out in an election campaign because public opinion would obviously be swayed by the debate about costs versus benefits.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada not faring well

» Canada could be barred from international carbon trading if a UN investigation finds it broke Kyoto Protocol rules for greenhouse-gas reporting. A statement posted on the UN Climate Change Secretariat's website says Canada was officially told May 5 it would be investigated for allegedly violating a Kyoto reporting requirement.

» Canada has been rated the second-worst country for green-friendly consumption in a survey done for the National Geographic Society.

contraband

Feds to target illegal smokes

PLAN The Harper government is pledging to crack down on the burgeoning contraband cigarette industry by beefing up policing and appealing to the conscience of Canadians.

The plan, unveiled yesterday by Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day, is aimed at reducing the number of illegal cigarettes that are being seized across the country. A record 618,000 cartons were grabbed by the Mounties last year alone.

Day said the RCMP will dedicate more officers to anti-contraband units, although he didn't say how many. The government will also launch a public awareness campaign to try to convince Canadians to stop buying illegal smokes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Halifax **Proud papa**

ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Leading Seaman Alex Moore holds his infant son Hunter for the first time as shipmate Petty Officer Troy Beazley, left, offers congratulations yesterday in Halifax. Moore just returned from a six-month tour of the Persian Gulf on HMCS Charlottetown. Hunter was born when Moore was at sea.

Quebec

Bloc angered by Jean's comments

FRANCOPHONE Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean's suggestion that France look beyond Quebec and recognize there are francophone communities all over Canada has prompted a barrage of indignation from the Bloc Québécois. The sovereigntist party peppered the government with questions about remarks Jean made during a trip to France.

Jean also said Quebec City's 400th birthday this year is a celebration of the francophone presence across Canada and North America.

But Bloc Leader Gilles Duceppe said he's outraged by Jean's suggestion and his party spent much of its section of the daily question period angrily denouncing the monarchy as a ridiculous institution.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cops help deliver baby at roadside

Usually it's the police who flag down motorists, but this time a 40-year-old man pulled over a Montreal police cruiser seeking help for his wife who was about to give birth.

There was no time to make the trip to the hospital around 2 a.m. yesterday, so two officers took quick action on the spot.

Montreal police spokesman Laurent Gingras said the officers kept their cool, climbed inside the man's car and delivered a baby girl.

He said the umbilical cord was wrapped around the baby's neck during the delivery, but the officers were able to remove it without any complications.

"The mother and little girl are doing very well," Gingras said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

»news
In Brief

» **FOUND** Sixty-four years after he died in a bloody battle with German forces in France, a Canadian soldier's body has been found, identified and is being prepared for a military funeral. The young private, whose name has not been released, died in the battle of the Falaise gap in August 1944.

» **BREAK-IN** Staff at a British Columbia zoo are devastated after a vicious vandal broke in and killed one of their resident spider monkeys. The monkey's mate is missing and zookeepers are hoping the female monkey may have escaped during the attack and was not taken by the vandal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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GORM 2 height shelving unit combination $69.49.
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world

The driver of a car that struck and killed a dog in Minnesota is suing the canine's owners for about $1,000 for damage done to his vehicle, time he had to take off from his two jobs to get the car repaired, and court fees. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Myanmar outlook grim

Cyclone death toll may hit 100,000, U.S. envoy says

Bodies floated in flood waters and survivors tried to reach dry ground on boats using blankets as sails, while the top U.S. diplomat in Myanmar said yesterday the toll from the cyclone and its aftermath may reach 100,000.

Hungry crowds stormed the few shops that opened in the country's stricken Irrawaddy Delta, sparking fist fights, according to Paul Risley, a spokesman for the UN World Food Program in neighbouring Thailand.

Shari Villarosa, who heads the U.S. Embassy in Myanmar, said food and water are running short in the delta area and called the situation there "increasingly horrendous."

"There is a very real risk of disease outbreaks as long as this continues," Villarosa told reporters. The death toll could hit or exceed 100,000 as humanitarian conditions worsen, she said.

State media in Myanmar reported nearly 23,000 people died when cyclone Nargis blasted the country's western coast on Saturday and more than 42,000 others were missing.

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon urged Myanmar's government to speed up the arrival of aid workers and relief supplies "in every way possible."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

prior warning from India

» An official says India warned Myanmar that cyclone Nargis was headed for the country two days before it made landfall there.

Canadian agencies step up aid efforts

Canadian aid agencies stepped up efforts to get relief for cyclone-hit Myanmar yesterday, with a group of four agencies calling for donations and another sending a five-person aid team toward the country.

GlobalMedic's rapid response team, which left from Toronto yesterday, was equipped with five million water purification tablets, 21 water purification units and $1 million worth of medicine to stave off waterborne diseases.

Meanwhile, four Canadian aid agencies, under the banner of the Humanitarian Coalition, launched an appeal for donations.

The Salvation Army is providing cooked meals and distributing it to needy families.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

donations sought

» The coalition, comprised of CARE Canada, Oxfam Canada, Oxfam-Quebec and Save the Children Canada, said Canadians can donate by calling a 1-800-464-9154 or logging onto *www.thehumanitarian-coalition.ca*

Russia

Medvedev sworn in as president

INAUGURATION Dmitry Medvedev was inaugurated as Russia's president yesterday, pledging to bolster the country's economic development and civil rights.

Medvedev took the oath of office in the Kremlin's golden-hued Andreyevsky Hall, bringing to an end Vladimir Putin's eight years as president.

But Putin is sure to continue to wield huge influence in the country.

Little more than two hours after becoming president, Medvedev nominated Putin to be prime minister.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Holocaust memorial **Musicians rehearse**

MARKUS SCHREIBER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Musicians from Germany's Kammersymphoniker Berlin orchestra perform yesterday during a rehearsal at the Holocaust Memorial in Berlin. The orchestra will perform its first concert in the memorial tomorrow.

»news In Brief

» **JAPAN** A strong earthquake struck off the coast of Japan earlier today, waking up people 160 kilometres away in Tokyo. Two people suffered minor injuries from the magnitude 6.8 earthquake.

» **KUWAIT** A Kuwaiti who had been imprisoned in Guantanamo for more than 3½ years, carried out one of three suicide bomb attacks last month in the northern Iraqi city of Mosul. Abdallah Salih al-Ajmi, 29, was transferred in 2005 to Kuwait. In May 2006, a Kuwaiti court acquitted him and four other former Guantanamo prisoners of terrorism charges.

» **VATICAN** The China Philharmonic Orchestra performed for Pope Benedict in a landmark concert yesterday that could indicate warming relations between Beijing and the Vatican.

» **UNITED STATES** San Diego State University has suspended Theta Chi and five other fraternities after a sweeping drug investigation that landed members of three fraternities in jail on suspicion of openly dealing drugs on campus. Twenty-nine people were arrested early Tuesday in raids at nine locations including the Theta Chi fraternity, where agents found cocaine, Ecstasy and three guns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Clinton stays in race

Superdelegates urged not to flee to Obama

Politically wounded and financially strapped, Hillary Rodham Clinton plunged back into the presidential campaign yesterday even as Barack Obama declared Tuesday's primary results left him with a "clear path to victory."

Obama beat Clinton soundly in North Carolina and fell just short in an Indiana cliffhanger.

Putting her money troubles into clearer focus, Clinton's campaign said yesterday that she lent her campaign $6.4 million over the past month.

Clinton, on the New York Post cover yesterday.

Clinton backers appeared on early morning television programs to stress that she was still in the race and to urge superdelegates not to flee to Obama.

Obama was 184.5 delegates shy of the 2,025 needed to secure the Democratic nomination. Obama's campaign said Clinton would need to win 68 per cent of the remaining delegates to win.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympic torch

Flame nears climb to Everest summit

CAMP The Olympic torch has moved to within striking distance of the summit of Mount Everest, and is likely to reach the top of the world's tallest mountain in the next several days. The climbing team says a camp has been rebuilt at 7,800 metres, after heavy snow destroyed several other base camps on the weekend, delaying the assault on the 8,850-metre peak.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Britain weighs return to tougher pot laws

Come next year, smoking a joint in Britain might not seem so funny anymore.

Britain's home secretary says that she plans to increase punishments for the use of marijuana, raising the maximum prison time for possession from two years to five.

The move by Jacqui Smith reverses the easing of penalties that took place under former prime minister Tony Blair. It also goes against the recommendation of the government's own advisory commission, which said the health dangers did not justify changing the laws.

But Smith says she wants to send a strong message to the public, particularly young Britons, that the drug is dangerous. She says evidence shows an increase of binge-smoking by young people and the use of stronger varieties of cannabis, called skunk.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ADVERTISING FEATURE
PLANT WORKS WONDERS ON SKIN
By: Bill Kennedy
Her name is Mary Rostoplasc. She represents the fourth generation of skin care in her family. By the age of six years, Mary began watching her mother and grandmother in their preparation of skin creams. By the age of nine, she observed her mother and grandmother had made a mistake in a preparation. They ignored her and two hours later, the entire batch of cream spoiled. They congratulated her and gave her a small room to do her own experiments. At the age of fourteen, Mary invented creams for acne, rosacea and psoriasis. Her parents tested the creams and when they proved to be effective; her father rewarded her with a motorbike.
Mary P Rostoplasc
Inventor
In the 1990's, when she arrived in Canada by herself from Romania, a regime controlled by the communists, Mary decided to trust her knowledge, talent and God's help.
But dear reader, walk in her shoes, not speaking English, having no help, and no money. She decided to give sample creams for people to try and demonstrate how good her products are.
Mary's clients loved her products and immediately noticed the improvements in their skin complexion. Mary's clients multiplied quickly. Today, Mary's products are distributed worldwide with great reviews.
The elegant inventor is very generous with her clients, and she has received many testimonials. Here is one
Dear Mary, Thank you very much for meeting with me. When I came into your office, I was really nervous. I had hoped that you could do something for my face.
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Severance law under fire

NDP's Hampton introduces bill to close loophole

There's no issue with an Ontario law that allows companies with fewer than 50 employees to close without paying them severance, Labour Minister Brad Duguid said yesterday despite complaints from workers about a loophole that leaves them with nothing after decades of service.

loophole exploited?

» Workers from H.J. Jones-Sons said an American firm bought the London, Ont., packaging plant last year and intentionally let the number of employees fall below 50 before announcing it would close the plant, take the customers and patents, but not pay severance.

Ontario's Employment Standards Act allows companies with fewer than 50 employees and a payroll of less than $2.5 million to avoid paying severance when they close, which the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union and the New Democrats said is a loophole that must be closed.

NDP Leader Howard Hampton introduced a private member's bill yesterday that would change the law so companies with at least 25 workers and a payroll exceeding $1 million would be required to pay severance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

»news In Brief

» **ALERTS** Yahoo and McAfee are offering alerts about dangerous websites. Surfers using Yahoo will see a red exclamation mark and a warning next to links McAfee has identified as serving dangerous downloads or using visitors' e-mail addresses to send out spam. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Parking can break condo deal

Less maintenance top lure, poll finds

Lack of parking edged out lack of building security as the top reason Torontonians would not buy a particular condo, according to a TD Bank Financial Group poll released yesterday.

The top reason given for buying a condominium was the prospect of less maintenance verses a house, with 38 per cent polled, followed by affordability at 19 per cent, according to the survey.

Living downtown and downsizing were the next most popular reasons.

Surprisingly, given all the sales of new units, owning a brand new condominium was the least important amenity for Torontonians.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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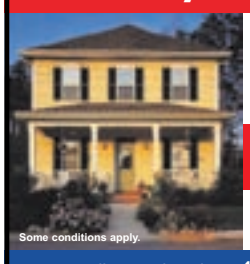
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sports

Tampa Bay centre Jeff Halpern, left, is expected to miss six to eight months after rupturing a knee ligament while playing for the U.S. on Tuesday at the world hockey championship, the Lightning announced yesterday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Add coach to Leafs' search

Bench boss Maurice fired after 2 seasons

Only the Maple Leafs could make a decisive move, and firing coach Paul Maurice was certainly that, and create more confusion in the process.

Maurice had barely packed his whistles and whiteboards yesterday, iced by interim general manager Cliff Fletcher, when the guessing games began.

Did the timing of the dismissal mean the Leafs had found their general manager and were allowing him to arrive without blood on his hands? Did it mean the Leafs are so far from finding Fletcher's successor that the Silver Fox realized he'd better do what he said he wouldn't — and that's fire the coach — and get on with rebuilding the hockey club himself.

Will Fletcher run the team until Brian Burke is freed up from his contract obligations in Anaheim next summer? Will the Leafs replace the current interim with another interim, say recently deposed Vancouver GM Dave Nonis, until Burke can arrive as the saviour?

Fletcher

And why hasn't Burke signed that extension in Duckland yet anyway?

This much we know:

» The Leafs have indeed asked permission to speak to Nonis, who was dumped by the Canucks last month. But they haven't spoken yet. TSN speculated Nonis would manage the Leafs for the upcoming season and then stay on in an executive role under Burke.

» Along with Maurice, given the pink slip were assistant coaches Randy Ladouceur and Dallas Eakins, though Eakins was offered a non-coaching job within the front office. Keith Acton was retained.

» Fletcher was given the go-ahead to axe Maurice, 41, owner of a 76-66-22 record behind the Toronto bench, at a scheduled meeting of the Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment directors on Tuesday. His plan rubber-stamped, he fired the coach.

After that, the situation gets a little muddled.

Fletcher would not comment on the time frame for bringing in his successor, nor would Gord Kirke, the lawyer who is heading the search committee for the Leafs' hockey poobah. Fletcher though did quash speculation that he will run the team through the upcoming season.

"I won't be the general manager," he said. "I'm here until the issue comes to a head and a replacement is in place, whether that's next week or two months from now. Whatever, I'm happy to be here."

Maurice said he was grateful the move came this early in the off-season. "I don't think you can say you're surprised based on how the season ended and the changes that have taken place over the last year. You're hopeful it doesn't come but you can't say you're surprised when it does," said Maurice. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Spezza OK with move to fourth line

Team Canada star has good attitude

By **MATTHEW WUEST**
Metro Halifax

Ottawa Senators centre Jason Spezza still had his usual sense of humour after finding out he'd been assigned to fourth-line duty with Canada at the IIHF World Championship.

Spezza

"Grindin' it out," he told reporters with his trademark giggle. "That's the strength of my game."

The skilled 24-year-old is taking the glass-half-full approach to a move that head coach Ken Hitchcock refused to categorize as a demotion. Spezza initially skated on a scoring line with Eric Staal, but the two couldn't find any chemistry.

Now, they're centring their own lines, with 36-goal-scorer Patrick Sharp on Spezza's wing and what Hitchcock called a "four-man rotation" working the opposite side.

"It's tough to come to these things where everybody's a centre," Spezza said. "This is a good solution to get me and Staalsy in our regular positions and hopefully spark something."

Canada will take on Norway in the team's first second-round game today in Halifax at 3:30 p.m.

Marlies in deep hole after 5-4 overtime loss

Joakim Lindstrom's goal 9:44 into overtime lifted the Syracuse Crunch to a 5-4 win over the Toronto Marlies in AHL playoff action last night.

The win gives the Crunch a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven Western Conference North Division final.

Syracuse trailed 4-2 heading into the third period but scored twice in the final frame, including a power-play marker by Derick Brassard with 1:38 to play in regulation time.

Derrick Walser, John Mitchell, Kris Newbury and Jaime Sifers scored for the Marlies. Zenon Konopka, Tom Sestito and Derek MacKenzie added Syracuse markers.

The Marlies will host Game 5 tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. at the Ricoh Coliseum.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

World hockey **Swedes upended**

FRANCIS VACHON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Swedish forward Marcus Nilson falls head first onto the ice yesterday in second-period action against Switzerland at the IIHF World Championship in Quebec City. The Swiss beat the Swedes 4-2 to finish first in Group A. In other early action yesterday, Finland edged Slovakia 3-2 to take top spot in Group C.

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CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
20
Charity BBQ Day

Marcum hurls gem as Jays bats boom

Five-run eighth seals home win

BLUE JAYS 6 RAYS 2

Shaun Marcum was nearly untouchable last night, and for a while the Blue Jays offence looked ready to squander yet another outstanding pitching performance.

But Marco Scutaro, only in the lineup because of injuries to shortstops David Eckstein and John McDonald a night earlier, made sure Marcum's efforts didn't go to waste with a key RBI single in the seventh that opened the door to a 6-2 win over the Tampa Bay Rays.

A five-run eighth highlighted by Scott Rolen's two-run shot helped secure the sixth victory in seven games for the Blue Jays, who won by more than three runs for the first time since an 11-3 thumping of Baltimore on April 15. They also ended a run of 20 straight games scoring five or fewer runs.

Up until the late outburst, they needed another near-Herculean effort from their pitcher to keep things from slipping away and Marcum (4-2) certainly obliged. He allowed just one hit over 8⅔ innings — walking one and striking out nine — before three straight hits, capped by B.J. Upton's two-run double, kept him from the first complete game of his career.

Scott Downs got the final out to end things before a crowd of 19,276.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AARON HARRIS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays second baseman Aaron Hill catches a fly ball off the bat of Tampa Bay Rays shortstop Jason Bartlett in front of Jays right-fielder Alex Rios last night at Rogers Centre.

Votto hits 3 homers to lead Reds to victory

Jon Lieber became only the second pitcher in Chicago Cubs history to give up four homers in an inning while Toronto native Joey Votto connected three times in all as the Reds powered their way to a 9-0 victory yesterday in Cincinnati.

Votto

Votto started a four-homer second inning off Lieber, who was making his first start of the season. Adam Dunn and Paul Bako also had solo shots, and Jerry Hairston Jr.'s two-run homer completed the history-matching rally.

The seven homers the Reds hit in total were Cincinnati's most since it hit an NL-record nine at Philadelphia on Sept. 4, 1999.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

»sports In Brief

» **OLYMPICS** Roger Clemens isn't welcome on the U.S. Olympic baseball team. American team general manager Bob Watson said yesterday he isn't considering the 45-year-old right-hander for his roster for the Beijing Games.

» **MLB** Cardinals starter Mark Mulder has a mild rotator cuff strain of his left shoulder, causing St. Louis to stop his injury rehabilitation assignment. Mulder is 2-2 with a 6.66 ERA this season.

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Rock goalie is NLL's best

Watson wins third top netminder nod

Veteran Bob Watson, the Toronto Rock goalkeeper for all 10 years of their existence, yesterday won the National Lacrosse League's goaltender-of-the-year award for the third time.

The 37-year-old, certainly one of the most consistent aspects of a 7-9 team that missed the playoffs for the first time, captured the honour in both 2000 and 2001.

Watson

A Guelph native, Watson posted a 78.6 per cent save percentage and a 10.34 goals-against average, respectively ranked fifth and third in the league, while logging 825 minutes in net.

The 10.34 average was his best since his 10.06 in 2003 but his best ever was an 8.89 in 2001 — one of the Rock's five championship seasons.

Watson, who broke in with the NLL with the 1996 Baltimore franchise, was also a member of the one-season (1998) Ontario Raiders, forerunners to the Rock.

Minnesota Swarm president Tom Garrity was named the NLL's executive of the year, while the Rock's Terri Workman was named the league's top public relations executive.

Meantime, the league's sudden-death semifinals are set for Saturday with the Buffalo Bandits home to the New York Titans in the East final, while the Calgary Roughnecks will settle the West by hosting the Portland LumberJax.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tickets for Bills games in T.O. as much as $295

Football fans looking for the best seats to watch the Buffalo Bills play in Toronto over the next five years will have to dig deep for tickets.

Bills Toronto Series Organizers announced yesterday that 180,000 ticket requests have been registered for the eight-game series, which will feature five regular-season and three exhibition contests being played at the Rogers Centre through the 2012 season. Ticket prices will range in price from $55 to $295, which includes all taxes and ticket service charges.

The first group of tickets (roughly 5,000) will be offered for sale (maximum eight per person) the week of May 19 on a random basis to those who registered online at *www.billsintoronto.com*.

Two sources said the average ticket price for the Toronto games will be a whopping $183. That's more than triple the $51 US average price the Bills will charge for their home games this season at Ralph Wilson Stadium.

The Bills will play twice in Toronto this year. They will host the Pittsburgh Steelers in an exhibition game Aug. 14 before facing arch-rival Miami in a regular-season contest Dec. 7.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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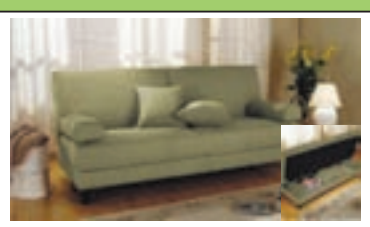

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»sports In Brief

» **NBA** Gilbert Arenas insists he won't return to the Washington Wizards if forward Antawn Jamison isn't re-signed by the team. "If he doesn't come back, I'm not coming back," Arenas said yesterday in a posting on his blog.

Arenas

» **NBA** Atlanta Hawks general manager Billy Knight is stepping down. The announcement comes after the Hawks ended a nine-year playoff drought and forced the Boston Celtics to a Game 7 in a first-round playoff series that ended Sunday.

» **NBA** New Jersey Nets forward Richard Jefferson was arrested yesterday on charges of assault for grabbing another man by the throat in a Minneapolis club earlier this year.

» **TENNIS** Spain's Rafael Nadal lost for only the second time in his last 105 matches on clay, falling to compatriot Juan Carlos Ferrero 7-5, 6-1 yesterday in the second round of the Rome Masters. Nadal said he was bothered by a blister on his right foot.

» **SOCCER** Argentina remains atop the largely unchanged FIFA world rankings. With just 20 international games affecting the monthly list released yesterday, Argentina stayed ahead of rival Brazil, with Italy, Spain and Germany rounding out the top five. Canada is tied at No. 62

» **CFL** Julian Radlein has called it a career. The Hamilton Tiger-Cats burly fullback announced his retirement yesterday after five seasons.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

NHL

CONFERENCE FINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
PHILADELPHIA VS. PITTSBURGH
Game 1 — Tomorrow
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30
Game 2 — Sunday
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30
Game 3 — Tuesday
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30
Game 4 — Thursday, May 15
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30
*Game 5 — Sunday, May 18
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 3
*Game 6 — Tuesday, May 20
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7:30
*Game 7 — Thursday, May 22
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30
WESTERN CONFERENCE
DALLAS VS. DETROIT
Game 1 — Tonight
Dallas at Detroit, 7:30
Game 2 — Saturday
Dallas at Detroit, 7
Game 3 — Monday
Detroit at Dallas, 8
Game 4 — Wednesday
Detroit at Dallas, 8
*Game 5 — Saturday, May 17
Dallas at Detroit, 1:30
*Game 6 — Monday, May 19
Detroit at Dallas, 8
*Game 7 — Wednesday, May 21
Dallas at Detroit, 7:30
(* – if necessary)

NBA

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
EASTERN CONFERENCE
BOSTON VS. CLEVELAND
Game 2 — Tonight
Cleveland at Boston, 7
Game 3 — Saturday
Boston at Cleveland, 8
(Boston leads series 1-0)
DETROIT VS. ORLANDO
Game 3 — Last night
Detroit at Orlando
Game 4 — Saturday
Detroit at Orlando, 5
(Detroit leads series 2-0)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
L.A. LAKERS VS. UTAH
Game 2 — Last night
Utah at L.A. Lakers
Game 3 — Tomorrow
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 9
(L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0)
NEW ORLEANS VS. SAN ANTONIO
Game 3 — Tonight
New Orleans at San Antonio, 9:30
Game 4 — Sunday
New Orleans at San Antonio, 8
(New Orleans leads series 2-0)

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
AMERICAN LEAGUE
TORONTO 6 Tampa Bay 2
Oakland 6 Baltimore 5 (10 ings)
Boston at Detroit
Cleveland at N.Y. Yankees
L.A. Angels at Kansas City
Minnesota at Chicago W. Sox
Texas at Seattle
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Cincinnati 9 Chicago Cubs 0
N.Y. Mets 12 L.A. Dodgers 1
Pittsburgh 3 San Francisco 1
Atlanta 5 San Diego 2
Florida 6 Milwaukee 2
Washington at Houston
St. Louis at Colorado
Philadelphia at Arizona
TODAY'S GAMES
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Cleveland at N.Y. Yankees, 1:05
Minnesota at Chicago W. Sox, 2:05
Boston at Detroit, 7:05
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 7:07
Baltimore at Kansas City, 8:10
Texas at Seattle, 10:10
NATIONAL LEAGUE
San Francisco at Pittsburgh, 12:35
San Diego at Atlanta, 1
St. Louis at Colorado, 3:05
Philadelphia at Arizona, 3:40
Milwaukee at Florida, 7:10
Washington at Houston, 8:05

AHL

AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE
PLAYOFF GAMES FEATURING THE MARLIES:
TORONTO VS. SYRACUSE
Game 4 — Last night
Syracuse 5 **TORONTO** 4 (OT)
Game 5 — Tomorrow
Syracuse at **TORONTO**, 7:30
(Syracuse leads series 3-1)

LOTTERIES

Lotto 6/49	13, 22, 29, 33, 46 & 49. Bonus 18.
Ontario 49	14, 15, 24, 46, 47 & 48. Bonus 31.
Ontario Pick 3	2 3 3
Ontario Pick 4	2 0 6 1
Encore	9185170
Daily Keno	3, 4, 5, 14, 16, 19, 21, 31, 32, 36, 37, 39, 42, 43, 44, 47, 51, 52, 59, 65. Results not official

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Shoppers World
Square One Shopping Centre
Stone Road Mall
White Oaks Mall

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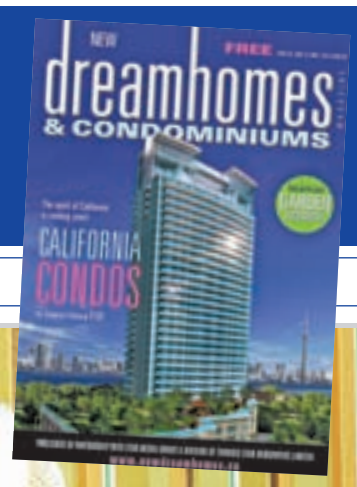

JOHN SLATER/PHOTONICA

Don't wait until the hot weather hits to figure out how to keep your place cool this summer. We run down a variety of strategies and fix-it tips that will give you a head start on chilling out.

» 2

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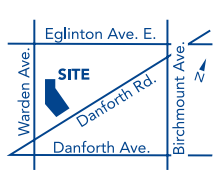

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Monarch

Tips and tactics for keeping your cool

Chilling out does not mean forking out piles of cash

You don't have to pay through the nose to keep cool this summer. Following are some steps you can take to lower your bill, improve comfort and even help save the planet in the process.

A dehumidifier is an easy way to reduce wear and tear on your cooling system, while making you feel cooler.

dehumidify

An air conditioning system does more than just cool the air. It lowers humidity and removes dust and dirt by moving the air through filters.

One of the most appealing aspects of having less humid air is that it actually feels cooler to the skin, thus allowing you to raise the thermostat. If you don't already have one, you may want to consider adding a dehumidifier to combat particularly humid weather.

It can result in significant energy savings, a lower utility bill and less wear and tear on your cooling system.

check the filters

When filters become clogged with dirt, the system must work harder to do its job. This wastes energy and inflates utility bills.

Disposable filters should be checked every two months (once a month during peak use) and replaced when necessary. Stay away from cheap, fibreglass mesh filters.

A pleated filter will cost three times more, but normally last three to five times as long and do a better job of protecting your system.

If your air conditioning system has either a permanent or electronic filter, it should be cleaned or replaced according to the manufacturer's instructions.

go whole-house

If you live in a dusty area or suffer from allergies, kick up your air cleaning horsepower by installing a whole-house air cleaner.

You'll get the best of all worlds: A clean system and fewer allergens that make you wheeze and sneeze.

refrigerant

Air conditioners use a refrigerant gas that is circulated throughout the system to produce cool air. Minute leaks in the system can allow the refrigerant to escape. When this happens, more electricity is used with less cooling effect. Have a heating and cooling contractor check the refrigerant level every year or two.

heavy on metal

If those funny paper-thin metal separators on the exterior portion of the system (the condensing unit) are bent, efficiency is reduced because air flow is diminished. Use an old dinner knife or thin-bladed screwdriver to straighten out bent fins. It isn't important that the fins look nice, only that air passes freely between them all.

Don't assume ceiling fans are all dowdy and dated. This Cirque mahogany fan is available through *www.g2art.com*.

shut it/program it

Some people like to "help" their air conditioner by opening doors and windows on warm days. But doing so lets all the cool, dehumidified air rush outside and lets in the hot, humid air.

The more your home seals out heat, humidity, and dust, the more efficiently your system will do its job.

Insulation, weatherstripping, window coverings and shade trees are a few things that can be used to help your home beat the heat.

A programmable thermostat can save energy and money. Programmable thermostats automatically change the thermostat's set temperature between comfort levels and energy-saving levels at specified times, according to the programs you set up.

Generally, to save energy, you would set up four program periods for each day — two comfort (cooling) programs and two energy saving (idle or higher temperature) programs.

get efficient

When an air conditioner begins to show its age, it is usually a major component such as a motor or compressor that wears out. In the short run, replacing failed components will usually cost the least amount of money.

But the government-backed Energy Star program recommends replacing your air conditioner with a new, more energy-efficient model if it is 10 years or older. Eventually, the more efficient unit should pay for itself through decreased utility bills.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

for more information

» For more information on energy-efficient appliances in the home, visit Energy Star online at *www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/energystar*.

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series no.2 / May 2008

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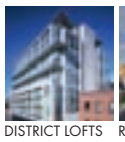

DISTRICT LOFTS

RADIOCITY

Upper East Side, 20 Niagara, Kensington Market Lofts, District Lofts, Ideal Condominium, MOZO, HOME, Radiocity, Tiptoplofts, Spire, The Loretto.

Exclusive Listing Brokerage Baker Real Estate Corporation. Brokers protected. Prices and specifications subject to change. E.&.O.E. Illustration is artist's impression.

Venerable design mag puts on reality contest

A long line of hopefuls queued up in the morning clutching photos of their best work and hoping they'd be picked for a starring role. This wasn't, however, a cattle call for American Idol, Project Runway, Survivor or any other television reality show. Instead, the men and women who waited patiently at the Pacific Design Center had a singular goal: A photo spread in an upcoming issue of Architectural Digest.

Think of it as an off-screen reality competition for designers, without the harsh critiques by judges. Each person had photos reviewed by a panel of six of the magazine's top editors, including longtime editor-in-chief Paige Rense.

"Over the years people have said to me that their work or their friends would be wonderful in the magazine, but they didn't know anybody there," Rense said. "So, I thought, OK, this is it, we'll have open auditions so people could bring pictures of their house or their friend's house."

The idea worked. Hundreds of people attended the recent two-day Los Angeles-area open audition, including Janna Levenstein, 36, who came armed with photos of a tony home she designed in the hills above West Hollywood. Levenstein completely revamped the 1950s-era home by adding touches such as a fingerprint entry for people who forget their keys and a stylish entrance from the garage, since that's how people often enter their homes.

The magazine previously held open auditions in New York and Florida and a fourth one was to be held this week in Houston. "We've seen some really good work and found new people," Rense said. "It's amazing the number of professionals who have never submitted to the magazine."

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Mementoes can eat up time, space

ORGANIZED ZONE
BRENDA BORENSTEIN
metro@organizedzone.com

What would the perfect gift be for Mother's Day this year? Another lovely card, some flowers, perfume, or maybe a personally homemade craft?

Of course, we want to find a way to thank mom for all the many things she does for us. And once Mother's Day is over, she's usually left with gifts, photos and — as with other special occasions — mementoes of one kind or another that mom feels she ought to hang onto.

Why are we compelled to keep stashes of such treasures. Well, when it comes to mothers, I often think they end up holding on to so many mementoes because they want to have something to show for all the time, effort and energy they have put into their family.

For example, a macaroni necklace might be one of the many items stashed in your sentimental bin. Yes, it brings back valuable memories. But at some point, years' worth of mementoes must be dealt with, because you're simply running out of storage space.

An additional complication is that mothers — who are frequently strapped for time to begin with — feel pressure to store all those mementoes for scrapbooking purposes.

Scrapbooking is like duplication to me. You have to creatively capture an event or moment that you already experienced. My goodness, who has the time?

So, unfortunately, moms rarely get around to the project. I find the unfinished scrapbooking project always seems to be at the bottom of moms' to-do lists. I also know that never-ending projects are self-defeating.

So mothers, give yourself a break! Don't create unnecessary projects you don't have time for. One client I worked with revamped her scrapbooking plans and created a piece of art. She picked her favourite keepsakes and created a 10x8 framed collage. Then she took digital pictures of some of her children's works of art, and recycled nearly all the 15 bins she'd been storing for five years. She loved what she'd made and feels good every time she looks at the finished project. No regrets or guilt.

Brenda Borenstein is your professional organizing guru. Look for her column every second Thursday. For more, visit www.organizedzone.com or call 416-665-2165. "There is nothing I haven't seen and nothing that can't be overcome."

EcoOptions offers up green advice

We're big fans of Home Depot's Eco Options magazine, which features practical ways to green your home and yard — and generally demystifies the concept of eco-friendly living. Look for the new issue in-store or at *homedepot.ca*, under the eFlyer button.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Below, the new issue of Home Depot's EcoOptions magazine.

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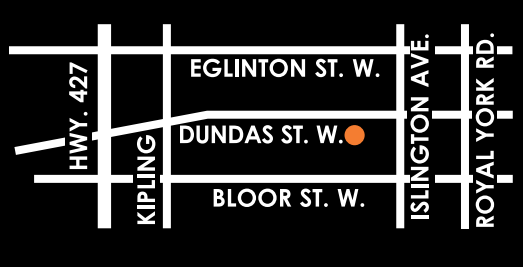

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BEAVERBROOK

No need to be leery of fluorescents

Greenish glow and annoying flicker are things of past

We've all heard about the conservation benefits of using fluorescent lights — you can cut your lighting costs by more than half by using them.

They are far more efficient producers of light, and they have a lifespan of six to 10 times the life of the average incandescent lamp, so consumers save money by buying fewer lights over time. So why do some people remain leery of using them?

ARRESTING DESIGN
JEFFREY FISHER & TAMMY SCHNURR
busted@arrestingdesign.com

The design team has heard it often enough — many people have a notion that fluorescent light fixtures cast a greenish yellow glow that is most unattractive. And there was some truth to this many years ago. Luckily, those days are gone.

The technology of fluorescent lighting has developed enormously since then. The quality of light has improved, thanks to advances that allow more natural light to be produced.

Fluorescent lighting now comes in at least two types — a warm white, which mimics the warm yellowish glow of incandescent lights, and a cool white, which casts a whiter light with more blue tones in it.

Warm whites are often used in homes, as people are used to that inviting tone of light.

Cool whites, on the other hand, cast a whiter "daylight" colour with more blue and green in it. These tend to be used in offices, or in a contemporary or modern loft setting.

Not only that, the annoying flicker that was associated with fluorescent lighting is also a thing of the past, and this is because the ballast system that is necessary in fluorescent lighting has improved as well.

SYLVANIA

Fluorescent bulbs have come a long way in recent years. Shown here are just some of the shapes and sizes on offer from Sylvania; *www.sylvania.com*.

Nowadays, good quality fluorescent lighting has a non-flickering electronic ballast rather than the traditional magnetic one.

Another benefit is that fluorescent lighting by its very nature does not produce as much heat as incandescent bulbs — they generate a whopping 70 per cent less heat than incandescent bulbs. This difference can have a significant impact on reducing air conditioning costs in the summer.

And fluorescent bulbs and lamps now come in a wide range of sizes, shapes and wattages to fit many light fixtures. For example, Sylvania lights come in 50 to 60 types of fluorescent bulbs, from compact twist or mini-twist bulbs, to chandelier bulbs of various types, globe, reflector, and, of course, long narrow lamps.

Do remember it is important to buy good quality fluorescent lights — the cheapest ones will not give you good service. (To be sure you're getting a good quality bulb, look for the Energy Star rating — a government-backed program that helps businesses and individuals save money and protect the environment through superior energy efficiency.)

Good quality bulbs will also have the benefit of reducing the levels of mercury and lead used in these lights.

As yet, there is no way around using these heavy metals in fluorescent lighting but you can minimize the amounts by purchasing low-mercury, long-life, high-performance lamps, such as Sylvania's Ecologic line.

Normally, there is no release of mercury in your home through regular use — it would only happen if the lamp is broken.

And even then, the amount from a single bulb is very small, and would only become a health hazard at a disposal site, if a large number of lamps are disposed improperly.

The good news for the homeowner is that retailers such as Home Depot and IKEA accept fluorescent bulbs for recycling, so you can dispose of heavy metals properly.

Tammy Schnurr and Jeffrey Fisher are hosts of Arresting Design on W Network. Tammy is an interior decorator. Jeffrey designs home furnishings and bedding through his company Jeffrey Fisher Home.

The 500

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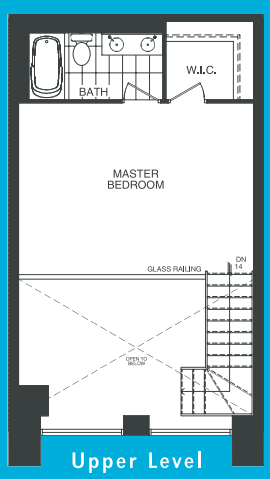
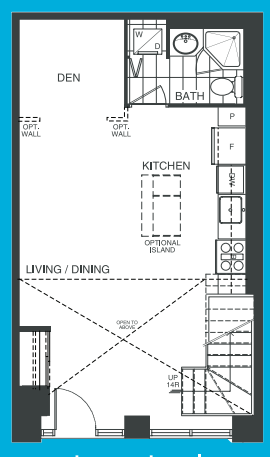


Upper Level



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ADVERTISING FEATURE

Dreams can come true at Dreamwood

What's in a name? At Dreamwood, the answer is everything. The name says it all when it comes to this dream community of dream homes, with woods and greenspace nearby.

Dreamwood by Bremont Homes, now more than 50 per cent sold out, is a luxury enclave designed for those who crave the finer things in life. But the dreams don't end there.

One of Dreamwood's most unique features is the fact that it has already been built. Bremont is offering this exclusive community of only 19 freehold condo townhomes with the unique pleasure of purchasing a new home with a quick closing — from just 60 days to as long as four months.

Stroll through three designer-decorated model homes for inspiration, observing the high standards of finishes and appointments in these fine homes.

You can even inspect the very unit you wish to purchase, giving you all the benefits of a resale open house in the form of a brand new residence.

Enjoy incredible urban convenience, combined with the best of suburban tranquility in the heart of desirable Maple.

Nearby, you'll find parks and greenspace, as well as fantastic shops and services, including the sprawling Vaughan Mills mall, the Colossus movie complex and Canada's Wonderland.

Spacious, open-concept main floors and soaring nine-foot ceilings create a bright and airy ambience.

Enjoy city excitement or cottage-country comforts in a snap by hopping on Highway 400, just minutes away.

At the exclusive enclave of Dreamwood, the community has been master-planned with tranquil streets featuring 19 magnificently designed homes in limited blocks of just four to six.

No through traffic means residents are assured a serene family-friendly community in an ideal setting. The neighbourhood ascends to a new level of tranquility, with each home either fronting or backing onto the community's ponds.

Further separating these from typical townhome units are the standard features in these homes that goes above and beyond anything typically recognized as "standard."

For those who fancy themselves amateur chefs, the gourmet kitchens are a dream, with ample preparation space. Kitchen cabinetry is upgraded to create stylish storage space — and if you need a little more storage, head to the basement and the fully finished cold cellar.

Summer entertaining is made easy thanks to backyard walkouts, perfect for barbecuing.

At Dreamwood, your dreams continue to come true when you enjoy all the luxuries of condo living with the freedom of freehold ownership — delight in maintenance-free grounds, snow removal and street maintenance, with low condo fees helping to keep the community pristine and property values high.

However, Bremont Homes' incredible bonus package means you don't have to pay those condo fees for your first two years in the home.

The bonus package also gives you your choice of either strip hardwood flooring throughout the main floor, or a five-appliance package in your choice of white or black.

It's a dream deal at Dreamwood, with homes priced from the low $300,000s.

But with just 19 homes available, you'll have to act fast to take advantage of this incredible opportunity.

for more information

» Visit Dreamwood just east of Keele Street on Peak Point Boulevard East. Hours of operation are Monday to Thursday from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. and weekends from noon to 6 p.m. Call 905-303-3896 or visit *bremonthomes.com*

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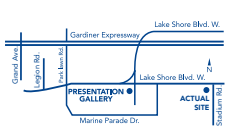

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*Monarch's "Putting You 1st" offer is a discount of One Per Cent (1%) off Monarch's current base retail purchase price of all residential highrise condominium units at the time an Agreement of Purchase and Sale is signed by a purchaser. This offer is not applicable to Extras, Upgrades, Options, Parking or Locker units. Offer is for a limited time only and may be withdrawn without prior notice at any time prior to the signing of an Agreement of Purchase and Sale by both Monarch and its customer. Offer strictly does not apply to any Agreements of Purchase and Sale "firmed up" (all conditions in favour of the Purchaser either having expired or been expressly waived) prior to March 15, 2008. Some other conditions may apply. For further information please consult the sales representatives at one of Monarch's highrise condominium sales centres today. March 17, 2008. **Limited time only. Prices, specifications and promotions are subject to change without notice. Renderings are artist concept and images are for mood and impression only. E. & O.E. **Brokers warmly welcomed with personal introduction.** May 8, 2008.

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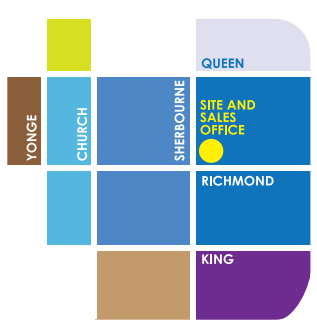

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Shedding light on realty jargon

Understanding some terms can prevent mistakes

THE HUNT
AMIT PAUL
amitp@rogers.com

There are plenty of terms that get tossed around when real estate jargon is the flavour of the day. Here is a little insight into some terms you might hear from your neighbour, your friend, your realtor or your lawyer.

MARKET VALUE Often one of the most debatable terms, the discussion of market value has often caused a rift between many, usually because the parties can't agree on what the market value of a given property actually is. In simplest terms, market value is said to be the factual and calculated price of a given property. This figure is attained by an assessment of the property and a comparison to similar properties that have either sold or are currently on the market. How well you assign this value can ultimately determine how well your home sells, or how sound a decision you make, when you buy. It is not a subjective term.

RENT While I'm sure just about everyone knows what the term rent means, not everyone is sure on the importance of tracking it when playing the role of a landlord. Imagine if Jack was renting his downtown condo to his friend Jill and one day Jill decided that falling down the hill with Jack wasn't as fun as it used to be. Jill might have even been a few months late in rent payments and caused a little damage to Jack's condo. If Jill decides to up and leave, without any actual trace or paper trail proving that she was a formal tenant in the condo, Jack has absolutely zero recourse to go after lost rent or damages. It really is the best thing in the world to rent to a friend, but you have the right to know exactly what you're getting yourself into.

INCOME PROPERTY In residential real estate this term will refer to a property that was bought for the purpose of being rented out — thus generating an income for the owner as the result of the incoming rent. While just as common as they were a few years back, because buying an actual property has become increasingly easier and property prices have increased, actually breaking even on your mortgage through your incoming rent has become increasingly rare. Having said that, many still make sound profits through residential income properties.

EXCLUSIVE LISTING On the most basic level, it simply means that the sole and exclusive right to market, negotiate and sell the property in question is given to a particular brokerage. The actual legal ramifications and responsibilities that come with such a distinction are something that go beyond the scope of this particular article. Yes, all MLS listings are exclusive listings, but not vice versa.

OREA FORMS OREA stands for the Ontario Real Estate Association. When it comes to residential real estate 99.9 per cent of transactions take place on standard OREA forms/contracts. Can you rest assured that the fine print on those forms with the OREA logo contain nothing drastic? Yes. Have there been cases in the past where the standard form has been manipulated and then edited to look like the original? Yes. So while OREA concerns itself very much with the security of the consumer, you should always concern yourself with your own security as well.

Hopefully, some of these terms have cleared up some lingering confusions, or perhaps shed some light on a new topic. If you have any terms or phrases that you'd like clarification on, I'm always reachable. Happy hunting!

For any questions/comments on this article or anything in general please feel free to e-mail Amit at amitp@rogers.com. Amit is a Realtor/Developer with Re/Max.

Patio lantern proves remarkably versatile

Luau rechargeable lantern by Vessel. See *vessel.com* for more details.

VESSEL

Boston firm Vessel hit a design home run a few years back with its sets of Candela rechargeable lanterns. But we're equally big fans of its Luau lantern, a larger but still portable model that can be used in a wide variety of settings. We've seen a series of them used to lend a gorgeous glow to an outdoor space; a single Luau employed as a bedside reading lamp; and we're told they're a fabulous light source to take to the cottage, where you can easily take them down to the dock or huck them along on a nighttime walk. See *vessel.com* for details.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Seeing Red means value in Scarborough

Value takes centre stage at Scarborough Town Centre, where you can now save a bundle on a condominium purchase at Red at Equinox.

This hot new condo by Monarch and The Goldman Group invites you to colour your life with the best deal in the city. Prices start from just $139,990 — and for a limited time, receive one per cent off the purchase price.

The "Putting You 1st" program is Monarch's way of showing you that you're #1. Plus, this incredible deal is in addition to the other promotions currently in effect at Red: free stainless steel kitchen appliances with every penthouse purchase and one year of free maintenance with every suite purchase.

You can also be a member in the Auto Share program, which is recognized by the Sustainable Transport Council of Canada to be one of three important Green House Gas Reduction Initiatives in the country. Select suites even come with a one-year transferable TTC Metro Pass (ask a sales representative for details).

When you look at the big picture, buying a suite at Red enables you to build equity at monthly carrying costs of $888/month (P&I Only) that may be less than rent!

Red will rise to 40 storeys, just steps from the new Real Canadian Superstore, the 1,300,000 sq. ft. Scarborough Town Centre, and the SRT. Award-winning Chapman Design Group appointed the inviting lobby, which will house a 24-hour concierge service. At the Red Club, residents can entertain in the Crimson dining special occasion/party room with its caterer's kitchen, bar and billiards table. For exercise, the Club offers The Vitality fitness room with cardio, yoga and aerobics areas featuring TV viewing to help make workouts more enjoyable.

Current purchase incentives at Red at Equinox in Scarborough include a one-year transferable TTC Metro Pass.

The Red Lounge has table tennis and a TV for viewing sports events, and the Silver Screen theatre will be available for private screenings complete with cinema-style seating, a big screen and surround sound.

The building amenities include two designer-decorated guest suites and a shared car wash bay.

Among the luxurious suite features are strip laminate flooring, 40-ounce broadloom in bedrooms and dens, and kitchens with a granite countertop.

Enjoy the benefits of "green" features such as individual suite metering of hydro consumption, an individually controlled year-round heating and air conditioning heat pump system, Low-E Argon windows, low-flow showerheads and lavatory faucets, an automated recycling collection system, and more.

Choose from one-bedroom, one-bedroom + den, one-bedroom + solarium, two-bedroom and two-bedroom + den + solarium suites in sizes from 515 to 889 sq. ft. Prices start from $139,990.

In 2007, Monarch Corporation celebrated its 90th anniversary and became the Canadian division of the world's fifth-largest home builder. The company has received many industry awards, including the coveted Ontario Home Builder of the Year Award from the Ontario Home Builders Association and the Consumers Choice Award five years in a row.

The Red Presentation Centre and Alex Chapman-designed model suite are located at 60 Brian Harrison Way in Scarborough (south of Highway 401, east of Brimley Road, by the Federal Government building).

for more information

» Hours are Monday to Thursday from noon to 6 p.m.; Fridays closed; Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Call 416-495-3582 or visit *monarchgroup.net*

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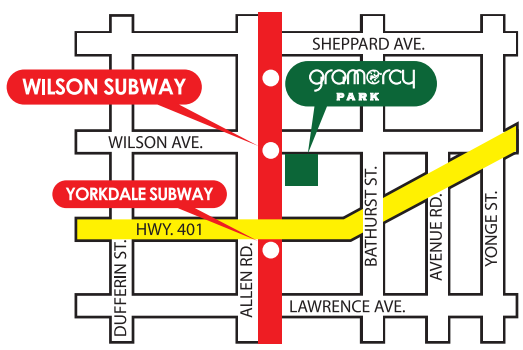

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Tulips: A spring gem

With Mother's Day just around the corner, moms everywhere are about to get bombarded with flowers. How long they last is up to mom.

For roses, carnations and mixed arrangements, the key is a clean vase, cool water and stems that are cut before adding to the vase. Tulips, though, may need some extra attention. Extend their lives with a few simple steps:

» Store-bought tulips should have flower heads that are closed and show only a bit of their colour.

» Before putting tulips in a vase, the stems should be cut with a sharp knife to allow them the maximum amount of water absorption. Fill a clean vase with cool water. Remove any foliage that will be under water.

» Tulips take on a life of their own in an arrangement. Despite being cut, their stems continue to grow and they lean toward light and bend over time. So today's arrangement may be tomorrow's do-over.

» Cut tulips don't react well to heat. Don't allow the room to get hot and keep them out of direct sunlight.

» Like other store-bought flowers, tulips usually come with nutritional packets that are added to the water. If not, Shelly Kolean of Nelis' Dutch Village, a popular tulip grower in Holland, Mich., suggests adding 5 ml (1 tsp) of sugar and a penny to the bottom of the vase. The sugar adds nutrition and the penny's alloys provides minerals, she says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NETHERLANDS FLOWER BULB INFORMATION CENTER

Tulips are big drinkers. Cut the stems short but not too short as you'll shorten them a little more each day when re-trimming stems. Top off with water.

Colourful begonias are luscious till frost

A little loving care and this shade-lover thrives in containers, gardens

NETHERLANDS FLOWER BULB INFORMATION CENTER

Shade-loving tuberous begonias are fantastic container plants.

Those searching for something luscious to grow in the shade will likely find that begonias bring a rich reward for a little loving care.

Tuberous begonias are excellent choices for containers, garden beds and borders and landscape plantings. Their flowering period is midsummer till frost.

They average in height from 25-35 cm. When planting in a garden bed, space plants 15 cm apart, after the last threat of frost. Plant tubers close to the surface covered with just a thin layer of soil. They grow best in light shade; direct sunlight can burn flowers and leaves (except in very hot areas, morning sun to 50 per cent shade is preferable).

Begonias will not over-winter outdoors in most parts of the country and are treated as annuals. "Lift them" before frost to save your favourite plants for indoor storage over winter and replanting outdoors the following spring.

They are very particular about the soil, preferring moisture-retentive but not soggy soil with a high humus content.And they love to be pinched! Pinching back will promote a more vigorous plant with fewer but bigger flowers.

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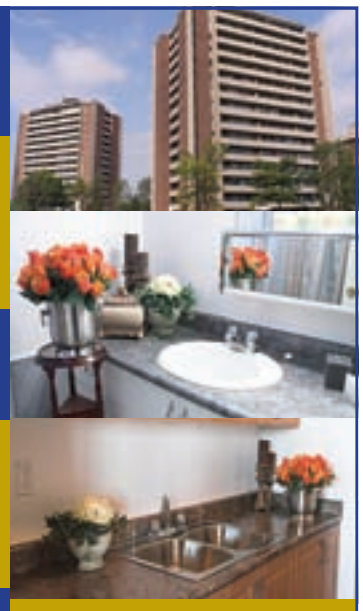

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Lottery Group Play Form

Estimated Jackpot

$____ Million

Draw Date: _____

NAME	NUMBERS OR QUICK PICK	SIGNATURE	PHONE	$	PAID
1	QUICK PICK				
2	QUICK PICK				
3	QUICK PICK				
4	QUICK PICK				
5	QUICK PICK				
6	QUICK PICK				
7	QUICK PICK				
8	QUICK PICK				
9	QUICK PICK				
10	QUICK PICK				
11	QUICK PICK				
12	QUICK PICK				
13	QUICK PICK				
14	QUICK PICK				
15	QUICK PICK				

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metro

MOTHER'S Day

Thursday, May 8, 2008

Give green

There are plenty of options for the eco-conscious mom

Beau Soleil snap dress, $275, available at jacflash (1036 Queen St. W., *www.jacflash.net*).

The Freedom Bag (made from jute), $14.95, available at Hazelton Lanes Guest Services (87 Avenue Rd.), *www.hazeltonlanes.com*, or call 416-968-8680.

The Mondano 24-speed bicycle from Opus, from $510, log on to *www.opusbike.com* for retail locations.

Yes To Carrots natural products, $15.99 (Eye Contour Cream), $13.99 (Hair and Scalp Mud Mask), $8.99 (Pampering Carrot Juice Shampoo), available at Shoppers Drug Mart and Pharmaprix stores.

Athletic Works organic cotton yoga wear, $14.98 (tank top), $24.98 (jacket), $19.98 (cropped pant), available at Wal-Mart, *www.walmart.ca*. Also available in pink and brown.

Ruffle skirt by Precocious (made of recycled bedlinens), $89, available at *greengirls.ca*.

Rest and Relax Basket, $35, available at Dandelion Mud Pie, 6 Fairlawn Ave., *www.dandelionmudpie.ca*.

PlantLove Lipsticks by CARGO, $20. Come in a compostable tube made from corn; the outer packaging is embedded with seeds that will grow wildflowers. Visit *www.cargocosmetics.com* for locations.

Shoes by El Naturalista (made using vegetable extracts for dyeing and recycled rubber soles), $199 (black) and $189 (red). For store locations, visit *www.elnaturalista.ca*.

The GreenPan, $29.99-$100 depending on the size, available at The Bay, Home Outfitters, London Drugs, Home Hardware and gourmet shops across Canada.

Algreen Manhattan Deck or Balcony urban pond, $110, available at Home Depot, *www.homedepot.ca*.

Aveda Green Science products, $51 for 15 ml (Firming Eye Creme), $62.50 for 50 ml (Firming Face Creme), $57 for 30 ml (Lifting Serum), $97 for 10 3 ml tubes (Line Minimizer). Available in Aveda salons, spas, stores and online at *www.aveda.com*. Call 1-800-328-0849 for locations.

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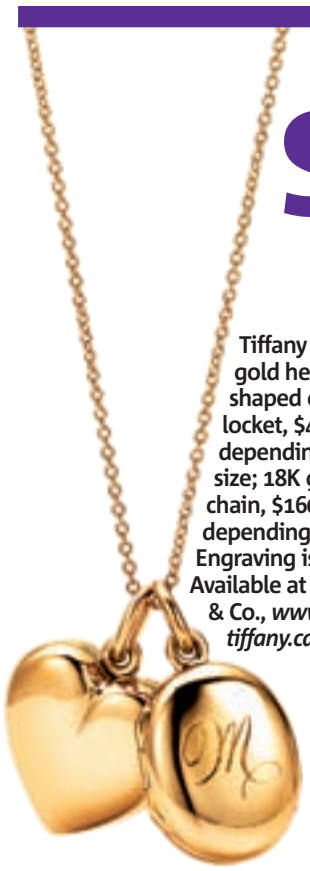
Sephora Brand Mother's Day Blockbuster Palette, $35, is available at all Sephora stores, including 131 Bloor St. W. For more locations, call 1-877-SEPHORA.

Sweet treats

Pamper her with jewelry, bags and more



Tiffany 14K gold heart-shaped or oval locket, $400-$560 depending on size; 18K gold chain, $160-$185, depending on size. Engraving is extra. Available at Tiffany & Co., *www.tiffany.ca*.

The SAK Signature Collection bag (in red, metallic, yellow, green, white or black), $165, available at Sears.

Eat My Words cupcakes, $63 for a treat box of 10. The profits from all Eat My Words treats go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation, which funds projects that provide care to women, grandmothers and orphans living with HIV/AIDS in Africa. Available at Sherway Gardens on Saturday, May 10, and at *www.eatmywords.org* or 416-489-7700.

Temper-Pedic slippers, $69.99, available at Adjustable Beds Plus (1875 Leslie St., Unit 9), 416-444-5800 or *www.bedsplus.ca*.

Trollbeads bracelet, starting at $60. Comes in silver (beads $26), Murano Glass (beads begin at $35), and gold (beads range in price). For locations, visit *www.trollbeads.ca*.

Lacoste Dream Of Pink fragrance, limited edition, $72 for 50 ml. Available exclusively at Shoppers Drug Mart.

Hand-stamped sterling silver jewelry created by Canadian silver Artisan Citrus and Canadian beading specialist La Perlerie, $120-$155, plus taxes and shipping. Available at La Perlerie (401 Jane St.) and at *www.citrussilver.com*.

Greenwich Shoulder Satchel, $298, available at Banana Republic stores across Canada. Call 1-888-BR-STYLE or visit *www.bananarepublic.com* for more.

The Supermama Kit, by Mama Mio, $105. Includes Wonder-Full Balm, Supersmooth Body Buff, Moisturising Shower Cream and Super-rich Body Cream. Available at The Bay.

Nicole by OPI Nail Lacquers, $12.50 each, available at select Shoppers Drug Mart, Wal-Mart, Katz and Jean Coutu locations. For more, visit *nicolebyopi.com*.

Kensie eyewear in Fay, $45. Available at The Bay.

Do Not Disturb Collection, Lavender Spa Cream, $25. Available at Linea Intima lingerie shops (2901 Bayview Ave., 1925 Avenue Rd., more), *www.lineaintima.com*.

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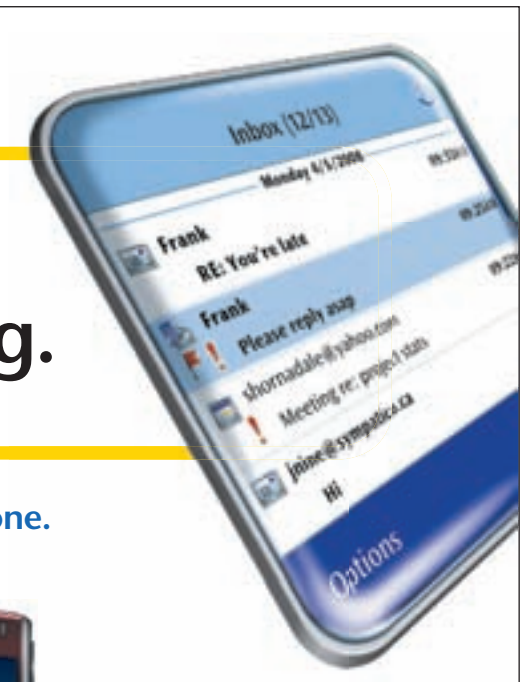

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Motopure H12 headset, $119.95, available at Bell Mobility, Rogers, Telus stores and major retailers.

Moto Q 9h, featuring a QWERTY keyboard for easy e-mail/web surfing on the go, $274.99 with a three-year term with Rogers Wireless; $275 with surfing option and a three-year Fido agreement.

Floral Fashion Laptop Case by Targus (comes in brown, white and black), $99.99. Available at Staples, Office Depot, London Drugs and online at *www.targus.com/ca*.

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HP Photosmart A626 Compact Photo Printer, $149.99, available at *www.hp.com* or 1-877-231-4351.

Family Tree Maker 2008 Essentials, $29.99, available at *www.amazon.ca*.

Media player, digital camera small but sophisticated

Samsung P2 Digital Media Player

Price: $189.99 (4 GB), $229.99 (8 GB), $329.99 (16 GB)

At: Future Shop, Best Buy, major electronics retailers

WHAT IS IT? A tiny media player built for video with a 3-inch-wide screen and 4GB and 8GB memory options, and Bluetooth wireless so you can untether your earphones. Comes in black, white and burgundy.

It also has a touchscreen interface, which has a sexy, futuristic feel to it.

WHAT WORKS: Samsung makes endearingly cute media players, with colourful graphics and easy-to-use interfaces. The P2 loads just as easily using Windows Media Player as Samsung's own software, which makes it very convenient for travelling away from your own home system. The screen, small as it is, is bright and sharp, and bigger than anything Apple offers except for the Touch.

WHAT DOESN'T WORK: Damn it's tiny. You've got to be determined to watch video on the go with the P2, but if you're already catching up on shows on your cellphone, this is practically Imax.

Kodak M1033 Digital Camera

Price: $199.99

At: Future Shop, Best Buy

WHAT IS IT? A small, user-friendly pocket camera that comes in an assortment of colours, including red and a pale pink that verges on lilac. Comes with a 3X optical zoom, a big, bright 3-inch screen and Kodak's suite of user-friendly software, and produces a stonking 10 megapixel image.

WHAT WORKS: It's truly amazing what they can fit in a digital snapshot camera these days — the M1033 will also produce HD video (720p at 30fps). Kodak's Smart Capture software is the real feature, though, judging a scene quickly and adjusting aperture and exposure accordingly. The menu is easy to access and shutter lag is mercifully brief.

WHAT DOESN'T WORK: There's not a lot to complain about. There are smaller, thinner cameras, but they don't have the same options. Digital "grain" can be a bit clumpy in low-light situations, but you'd have to pay a lot more money to get a camera that could deliver better quality in dim available light; the wonder is that a camera this inexpensive can still produce a sharp, usable shot in those conditions.

— RICK McGINNIS/METRO TORONTO

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ONLY AT THE BAY

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Shown: 50ml Eau de Parfum **$78.**

Offer excludes gift sets.
While quantities last.

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With any $68 purchase from the ETERNITY Women's Fragrance Collection, receive this 3-piece gift.
Fragrances shown: **$68 to $89.**
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Think pink

Sales of these items benefit the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation

Artistic Jewellery (Martin Ross), available at independent retailers across the country, $20 each. For more, visit *www.cbcf.org*.

Pink KitchenAid Toaster, $59.99. Available at major retailers, and online at *kitchenaid.ca*.

McBrine Luggage, available at independent luggage retailers across Canada. Retail price ranges from $99.99 for a 20-inch upright suitcase to $149.99 for a 28-inch upright suitcase. Also available are the computer case on wheels for $129.99 and the ladies laptop bag for $64.99.

SunDog Distributing, Eyewear Pink, available at *www.eyewearpink.com*, $34.99-$39.99.

2008 Warriors In Pink Mustang with Warriors in Pink Package, available at participating dealerships across Canada. $300 from the sale of each 2008 Warriors In Pink Mustang or 2008 Warriors In Pink Mustang Convertible is contributed to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation.

Nestlé Real Dairy ice cream, Natural Vanilla flavour, $6.29, available at Wal-Mart, Sobeys, IGA, Foodland and Price Chopper.

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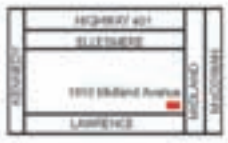

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Brunch popular choice

Mother's Day is around the corner, and that means treating one of the most important ladies in your life to something special. Why not brunch? Here are a few spots where you can take her:

NOVOTEL TORONTO CENTRE: Executive chef Brad Scully and his team will showcase the best of a recent contest where kids entered their mom's favourite dish. Winning dishes along with their recipes will be on the menu at this special Mother's Day brunch on Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call 416-367-8900 or visit *www.novoteltorontocentre.com* for more.

BONJOUR BRIOCHE: This Leslieville landmark of French cuisine is one of the best-known brunch restaurants in the city. How does French toast and yogurt and fresh fruit in bed sound? The entire menu is available for takeout. 812 Queen St. E., 416-406-1250.

MITZI'S SISTER: A fave for Queen Westers (not the ones who never venture west of Bathurst), the young hipster moms of Parkdale know to hit this diner early on a Sunday to reserve their seat for brunch, and Mother's Day will be no exception. It's a surprise every Sunday as the menu gets revised week to week. 1554 Queen St. W., 416-532-2570.

THE OLD MILL INN: Fresh pastries, poached lobster and salmon darns accompany double smoked bacon and scrambled eggs, among other dishes. 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., $40.95 for adults, children 6 to 11 half-price, under 5 free. Reservations for eight or more. Call 416-207-2020 or visit *www.oldmilltoronto.com*.

JUBILEE QUEEN CRUISE LINES: Set sail around the Toronto Islands and Toronto Harbour as you sample a buffet featuring carved pineapple-smoked ham with applesauce, eggplant parmesan lasagna with a selection of fruits, juices and cookies. Adults $44.95, seniors $39.95, kids $19.95. Call 416-203-7245 or visit *www.jubileequeencruises.ca*.

PEARTREE RESTAURANT: This little resto can be found among the trendy shops that line Parliament Street in Cabbagetown. Peruse eclectic choices such as Chicken Creole Eggs Benedict, Rocky Mountain French Toast and more. Arrive early to get your patio seat. 507 Parliament St., 416-962-8190.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

... or pamper mom at home:

Tropical Fruit Salad with Nutmeg-Chili Vinaigrette

SALAD INGREDIENTS:
4 large oranges (450 g)
1 large or 2 small papaya (approx. 1 lb or 500 g)
2 cups (300 g) frozen wild blueberries (defrosted)
1 cup (150 g) mozzarella balls
Mint leaves for garnish

VINAIGRETTE:
Juice from orange preparation
2 tsps (10 mL) walnut oil
1 tsp (5-10 mL) honey (2 if oranges are very tart)
1/4 tsp salt
1/4 tsp nutmeg (freshly ground is best)
1/4 tsp chili powder

STEP 1: Peel oranges with knife to remove skin and pith. Cut oranges in sections, removing membrane between sections and collect juice while sectioning. Mix walnut oil, orange juice, honey and spices together. Can add more spices to taste.

STEP 2: Cut papaya in half and scrape out seeds with a teaspoon. Peel the halves and cut into 3/4-inch pieces.

STEP 3: Combine orange sections, papaya, mozzarella and add wild blueberries (drained if necessary). Drizzle vinaigrette over it. Serve with mint leaves. Serve within 5 minutes. The wild blueberries will change the orange colours if left to sit.

– COURTESY WILD BLUEBERRIES OF NORTH AMERICA

food

Hand-picked only in early spring from the tea buds before the tea leaf blossoms, white tea is named for the silver fuzz appearing on the buds. Tea leaves destined to be white tea undergo little processing and no fermentation. NEWS CANADA

Debra DiGiovanni admits her favourite food to cook is cereal.

Noshing on gnocchi

Debra DiGiovanni was voted as Canada's Best Female comedian at the 2007 Canadian Comedy Awards. This past summer, Debra is part of the Girls Night Out cross-Canada tour which begins May 11 in Ottawa.

CELEB KITCHENS
MARCY CORNBLUM
entertainment@metronews.ca

Q What is your fondest memory from your family kitchen?

A We had this old round kitchen table, with those collapsible drop leaf sides, and every single meal one of those leaves would fall and a meal would land in someone's lap. For some reason, we never got rid of the table.

Q What kitchen aromas bring back fond memories?

A Muffins are very nostalgic. My mom is the muffin maker.

Q How did the first meal you prepared turn out?

A I once made lasagna for a boyfriend's family and that night everyone was violently ill. Oddly, I was the only one unaffected ...

Q Do you use cookbooks?

A If I'm going to attempt cooking, I must! I enjoy following rules.

Q What is your favourite food to cook?

A I would say it's definitely cereal.

Q What kitchen gadget can you not live without?

A My coffee maker! It's like a family member. I love you coffee maker.

Q Is there a cultural dish that you have at gatherings that ties into a holiday?

A Gnocchi. My dad makes it every year for Christmas Eve and it represents the holidays.

Marcy Cornblum is a freelance journalist. After 25 years of celebrity-filled adventures, she is using her experiences to enlighten others in understanding the media. Reach her at *mediasavvy@pathcom.com*.

Cora's coast-to-coast

Single mother behind successful breakfast chain

By **SANDY CAETANO**
Metro Toronto

IAN BARRETT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cora Tsouflidou stands in her living room in Prevost, Que. She's the founder of the successful restaurant chain, Cora's.

Starting her breakfast business was a must for Cora Tsouflidou, founder of Cora's, the booming breakfast chain from Quebec.

It wasn't a "let's see where this will take us" type of venture. Instead, it was Tsouflidou's way of surviving.

"Surviving was my business strategy. Of course, when I started, I never thought it would be a big chain," Tsouflidou tells Metro. "My strategy was doing something with myself, surviving, feeding my children, but very quickly I realized that I created a product that was exactly what the customer wanted — amazing breakfast products that people were starving for."

Starting a business from scratch is a difficult process for anyone, but add the demands of being a single mother to the mix and the stress levels double.

> *« I find it was terrific because my kids have been my support since the beginning.... So for me being a single mom gave me the biggest motivation — I had to do it, I had to make it. »*
> *Cora Tsouflidou, founder of Cora's*

It wasn't an easy time getting her business off the ground, but she managed better than she imagined.

"I find it was terrific because my kids have been my support since the beginning. Maybe if I was married I would have a screaming husband," she says. "But my kids were my support, they would come to work with me on the weekends all the time. So for me being a single mom gave me the biggest motivation — I had to do it, I had to make it."

Famous for its breakfasts, Cora's is now operating in eight provinces with a total of 90 restaurants. Having a 20 per cent growth in its overall revenue just last year, Cora's will be opening 21 new locations from Nova Scotia to British Columbia.

The Cora Franchise Group Inc. has won several awards and was named one of Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies for the third consecutive year.

Tsouflidou says it's the homestyle atmosphere and wholesome ingredients of her extensive menu that keep her customers coming back.

"In this fast life that we live in, for people who don't have time to eat, Cora's is really the answer to the good food," says Tsouflidou. "It's about giving the customer what they like, and so they keep coming back for a wholesome breakfast."

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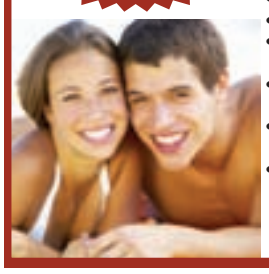

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Does your son usually behave well, without major behavioural problems?

The Child, Youth and Family Program at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health is recruiting **control** participants for a research study on aggressive behaviour in children. Participation involves a 1-hour assessment with the child and 1 parent at the Centre answering questionnaires and the donation of a DNA sample by the child (via cheek swab). The child's teacher is also asked to complete questionnaires.

All information is entirely confidential and compensation will be provided.

CRITERIA:
- Boys ages 6 to 16 years old
- Generally well-behaved at home and at school
- No developmental delay
- Child willing to give a DNA sample
- Teacher to fill out questionnaire

If you think that your child meets the above criteria and are interested in participating, please contact Behdin Nowrouzi, at (416) 535-8501, ext. 6263 or behdin_nowrouzi@camh.net

Note: We are accepting only one child from each family.

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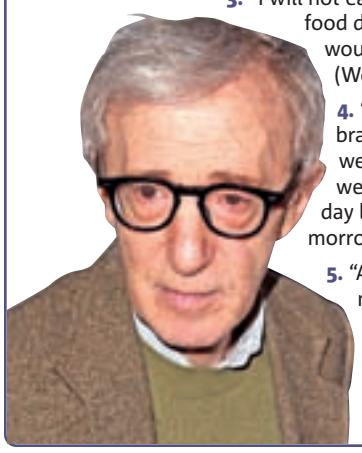
metro TOP 5IVE

Quotes about food:

1. "The poets have been mysteriously silent on the subject of cheese." (G.K. Chesterton)
2. "We are living in a world today where lemonade is made from artificial flavours and furniture polish is made from real lemons." (Alfred E. Newman)
3. "I will not eat oysters. I want my food dead — not sick, not wounded — dead." (Woody Allen, left)
4. "We load up on oat bran in the morning so we'll live forever. Then we spend the rest of the day living like there's no tomorrow." (Lee Iacocca)
5. "As for butter versus margarine, I trust cows more than chemists." (Joan Gussow)



— QuoteGarden.com

French reinvigoration

BILLY'S BEST BOTTLES
BILLY MUNNELLY
info@billysbestbottles.com

What's the most improved wine country? Canada would qualify but I want to talk about a much bigger player. A country that once ruled the wine world. Naturally, it's France.

France has always operated a two tier system with its wines. Really good, expensive stuff and so-so, everyday wines. The fancy stuff created the reputation, and helped sell the lesser wines. But during the past few decades we've seen a decline in quality of low-priced French wines and millions of people have stopped buying them.

Another reason for poor sales has been the arrival of delicious, inexpensive wines from other countries such as Australia and Chile. But guess what? Another cycle is unfolding — everyday French wine is much improved as producers struggle for survival.

Before you dash off to the store let's make sure you understand a few basics about French wine. It's more reserved and less flashy than your favourite Aussie. In some instances it can be a little challenging — offering interesting character as opposed to gushy niceness. But maybe you're tired of 'nice' wines!

I think you'll find Bouchard's wine to be an invigorating, jazzy aperitif. And don't be scared of tartness — it's a great feature in red wine for summer drinking. Lightly chill and follow with a richer red. Just as they do in France.

Billy Munnelly has been writing about wine for 25 years and is the author of Canada's largest selling wine book, Billy's Best Bottles. Sign up for his free monthly e-letter at www.billysbestbottles.com

»uncorked

- **Bouchard Pere & Fils '06 Macon-Lugny,** France
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- **Price:** $14.70
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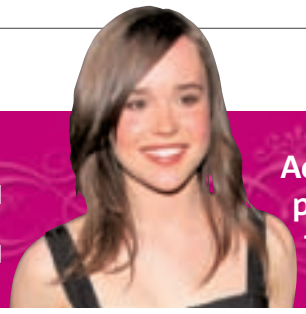


Actress Ellen Page, left, has signed up to play Jane Eyre in a new adaptation of the Charlotte Bronte novel. BBC NEWS ONLINE

Down to three at Idol

51 million vote tally highest so far this season

By **SANDY CAETANO**
Metro Toronto

Jason Castro lost his chance at the American Idol crown when he didn't remember the lyrics for Bob Dylan's Mr. Tambourine Man.

The viewers were not as sympathetic for Castro, who was voted off the show last night, as they were two weeks ago with Brooke White when she fumbled on her song and had to start over. Maybe his magic has finally faded, or viewers really don't get his artistry.

It's not that Castro is a horrible singer, he's just not suited for this singing competition — he doesn't fit the Idol mould. Perhaps busking back in his hometown of Rockwall, Texas, will work better for him.

Nearly 51 million votes came flooding in following Tuesday's Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame themed show, the highest this season thus far. And it was so close that the competitors — Castro, David Cook, David Archuleta and Syesha Mercado — were all within a million votes of one another.

Before the results were read, viewers were treated with the usual song and dance, a group performance that featured the Idol hopefuls singing Reeling In The Years by Steely Dan. After host Ryan Seacrest revealed that both Archuleta and Cook were safe, judge Randy Jackson offered a few words of advice to Cook.

CTV PHOTO

Jason Castro isn't the only American Idol contestant to forget song lyrics — David Archuleta blanked on words, too.

"You just got to keep being yourself ... you've been one of our most original ever ... and rock it out baby," said Jackson.

More performances followed including a number by pop rock band Maroon 5, which sang If I Never See Your Face Again, and an appearance by Season 4 runner-up Bo Bice, who sang his new single Witness.

This week's bottom two included Mercado and Castro. Thankfully, Mercado will be returning next week as part of the final three. She has proven to be a very strong competitor, and one to be reckoned with. Unfortunately, it was Castro's turn to say goodbye.

"It's been a pleasure ... dreams do come true, so dream big," said Castro before ending the show singing Bob Marley's I Shot The Sheriff.

»news In Brief

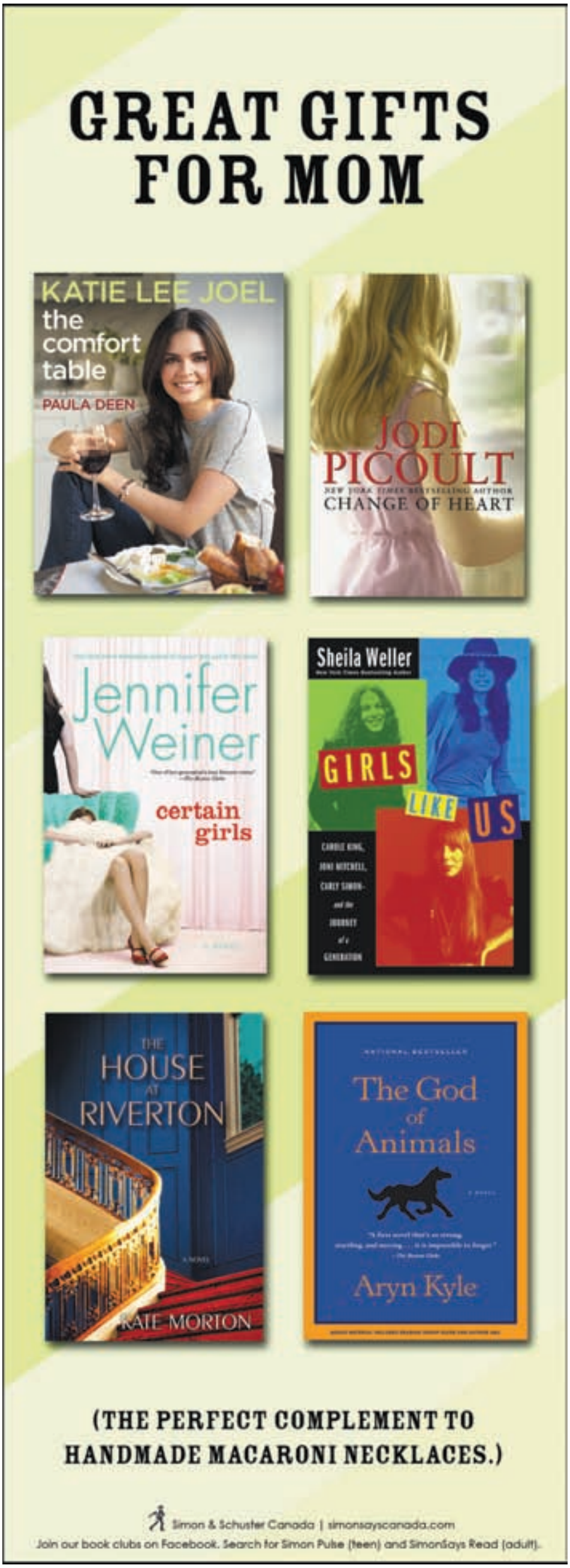
» **PEOPLE** Amy Winehouse has been arrested after police were handed a video in January that allegedly showed her taking drugs, BBC News Online reports. The singer was questioned at a police station in east London, her spokesman said.

Winehouse

» **MOVIES** The Jonas brothers will be shown in all their 3-D glory next year in a movie featuring footage from their upcoming Burning Up concert tour, The Associated Press reports. The tour begins July 4 in Toronto.

» **GAMING** Grand Theft Auto IV racked up more than $500 million US in sales in its first week of release, with cash registers ringing up $310 million on the opening day alone, The Associated Press reports. The criminal action video game went on sale April 29.

METRO NEWS SERVICES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What lies beneath

Mystery swirls in Durham County

ON TV

SANDY CAETANO
sandy.caetano@metronews.ca

In the quiet town of Durham County, everyone knows one another and assumes they live in a world where nothing bad can happen.

Of course, that's not the case. Here, danger lurks where you least expect to find it.

This Canadian original drama is set to make its series debut on Global on May 19 at 10 p.m. ET/PT. The story revolves around Det. Mike Sweeney (Hugh Dillon) and his family as he hunts down a serial killer who may just end up being the guy who lives across the street.

Durham County, which first aired on The Movie Network, opens with two 18-year-old girls having a picnic with an older man who lures them into the woods. While he binds their hands and rapes them, and leaves them for dead, a second man, Ray Prager (Justin Louis), hides amongst the trees watching everything.

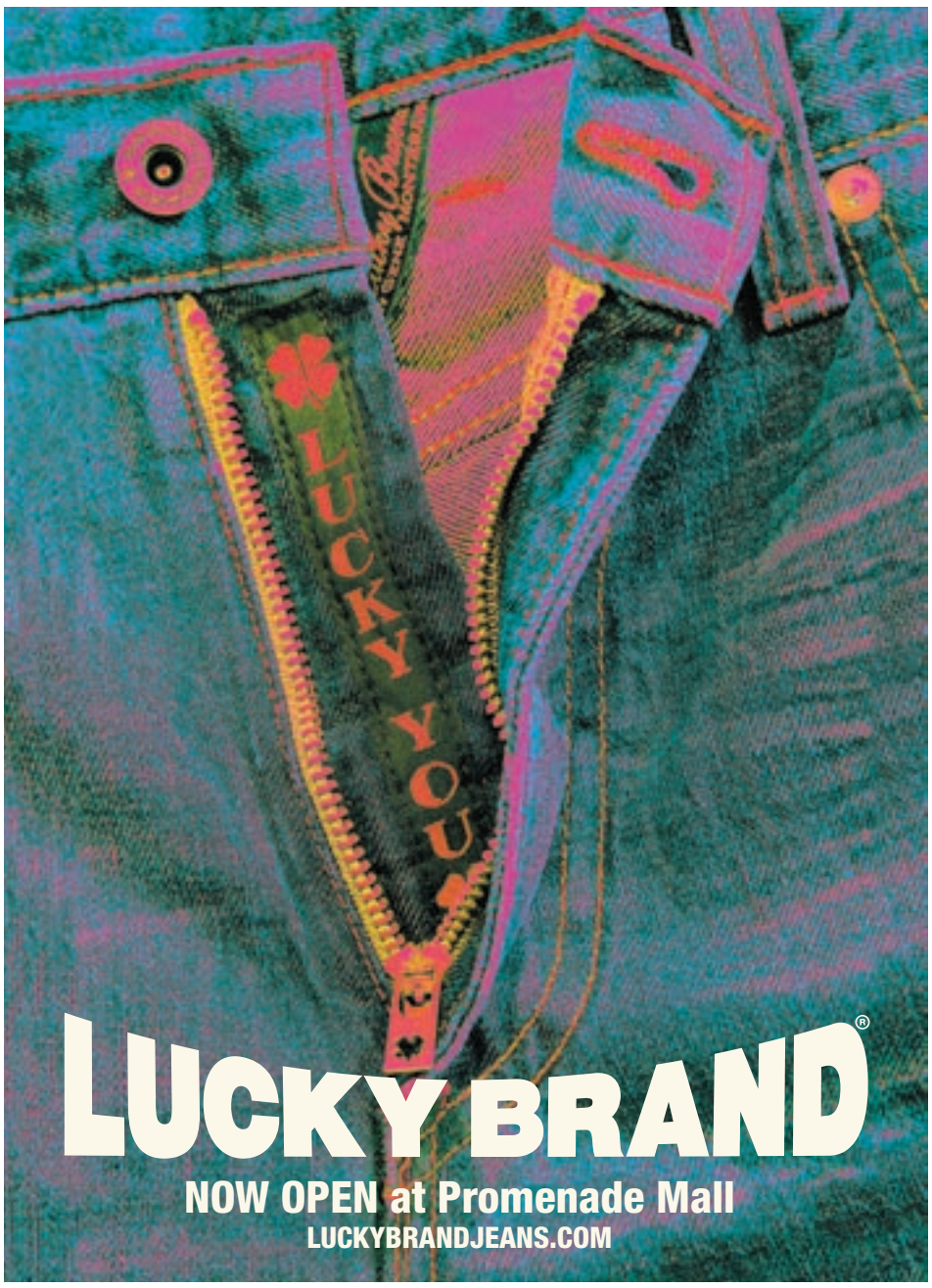
Prager later comes back to have his own sick fun with the girls, one of whom is still alive. This character has a twisted mind, like something more is happening than we, as viewers, can fathom. It's as if he's using his marriage and family life to hide from who he really is — a psychotic man who has to be in control.

Meanwhile, Sweeney takes his wife and two daughters away from the big city after his partner is shot and moves in across the street from Prager, who turns out to be an old high school rival.

As the first episode continues, viewers learn a little more about each of the characters. Sweeney's wife Audrey (Helene Joy) has been battling breast cancer and looks to be in remission, Prager's wife Traci (Sonya Salomaa) is having issues with her husband's controlling ways, Prager's son Ray Jr. (Greyston Holt) wants to go away to a writing school on a scholarship but his father refuses to let him go.

When Sweeney and Prager reunite, the tension between them indicates they have unfinished business. And while Sweeney loves his family and struggles to make it all work he is unable to forget Natalie Lacroix, with whom he fell in love while his wife was deemed to be dying of cancer.

Sandy Caetano has been with Metro for five years, and covers reality shows from Canadian Idol to The Bachelor. She's interviewed stars like Leanne Rimes, Lionel Richie, Paul Anka, Good Charlotte and more.



Eco-inspired gifts for mom

Mother's Day finds

WITH MOTHER'S Day just a few sleeps away (it's this Sunday), a couple of unusual west-end shopping events are worth investigating:

• **Inspirations Studio**, a mentoring program for women in transition launching their own craft businesses (part of Sistering Toronto) is holding their semi-annual ceramics sale this Friday, Saturday and Sunday (May 9, 10 and 11) from noon to 5 p.m. each day. Prices range from $5 to $100, including

FRUGAL FASHIONISTA
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dishes, vases, décor items, jewellery and handmade cards. **Where:** 761 Queen St. W., second floor (near Euclid Ave.)

• **The Heart of Craft** sale showcases eco-friendly products and gifts (lots of creative recycling) handmade by local crafter/designers. Sixteen vendors will be offering up eco-chic wearables, paper goods, natural cosmetics and more. This event is organized and hosted by Heart on Your Sleeve, a green boutique located at 61A Bellevue Ave. in Kensington Market. **When:** Saturday (May 10) from noon to 6 p.m. Info at: *www.heartonyoursleeve.ca* or 416-999-2197.

Shop 'Til It Stops

IN ITS continued efforts to support the Canadian Women's Foundation Shelter from the Storm campaign, **Winners/HomeSense** Canada has committed to donating a percentage of today's retail sales to the CWF. So, if you're planning to get your Mother's Day gift or something fab for yourself at Winners this week, go TODAY, and know that you're shopping for a good cause (to prevent and end the cycle of violence against women). And, if you use your BMO Mosaik Mastercard to pay for your purchase, BMO will donate an additional amount to raise more funds for Shelter from the Storm. Visit: *www.shelterfromthestorm.ca*

Cupcakes for a Cause

LOCAL BAKING outfit **Eat My Words** will be selling their food and delightfully decorated cupcakes and cookies this Saturday (May 10) at Sherway Gardens in Etobicoke to benefit the Stephen Lewis Foundation. So, whether you're looking for a big-hearted and yummy treat for your mom or yourself, definitely scoot to the mall where these amazing edibles — usually only available online — will be sold for one day only (right across from European Jewellery). Money raised will help the SLF support programs for orphans and people living with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

PHOTO BY CARMEN CHEUNG

Find Paper People at Saturday's Heart of Craft sale.

Prices: $4 and up. Visit *www.eatmywords.org*.

Nathalie-Roze Fischer is an accessories designer, writer and DIY enthusiast. Visit her online at www.nathalie-roze.com or at her indie shop/studio in Leslieville (1015 Queen St. East).

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Has Cyrus' cuteness worn off?

IDIOT BOX
RICK McGINNIS
rick.mcginnis@metronews.ca

THAT WAS FAST: A month ago, two major business magazines devoted feature space to a resurgent Disney and the not-old-enough-to-vote engine that was driving it: Miley Cyrus. Those issues haven't hit the recycling bin yet and already the reign of Hannah Montana at Disney looks to be waning, though it isn't likely that it was just a couple sullen photos in Vanity Fair that did it.

Audiences declined in just one week by 14 per cent as of last Sunday, according to a New York Daily News story, and Nielsen figures went on to report that ratings were down 26 per cent since January.

None of this seemed to affect Disney chairman Bob Iger, who said in effect that the ship was on course, and that icebergs are normal this time of year:

"With a new season of shows coming up, a new record in July and a theatrical film next year, the Hannah Montana/Miley Cyrus franchise is incredibly robust."

When people in the entertainment business use language like that, it's always best to look around the back to see if they're emptying out the store.

> *« With a new season of shows coming up, a new record in July and a theatrical film next year, the Hannah Montana franchise is incredibly robust. »*
>
> *Bob Iger, Disney chairman*

As any parent will tell you, childhood is brief and cuteness briefer, so why is Disney banking so much on an artist whose audience was wearing Dora sneakers two years ago and will be posting "happy slapping" videos on YouTube in another two?

The Daily News story summed it up in one sage sentence: "Experience shows that kid franchises such as Hannah that hit the rare white-hot phase are good for roughly 18 months, then start to fade."

As parents will also tell you, by the time you've figured out what your kids are watching, listening to and talking about long enough for you to buy them the DVD, CD or souvenir T-shirt from the touring show, they've already abandoned that fad for their younger siblings and have moved on to new enthusiasms — like illegal pharmaceuticals, or self-mutilation. It's nice to know that business writers and the people who employ them are as hopeless as you.

MARS NEEDS SHOWRUNNERS: NBC's adaptation of the hit U.K. show Life On Mars is tipped as one of the fall's hot new shows, but months before it's supposed to debut, it already looks like it's in trouble.

It was being tipped as a return to form for former hitmaker David E. Kelley, but according to a Variety story, Kelley may already be leaving the show.

"Such a move would be a stunning twist for a project that's all about stunning twists," wrote Variety, recapping the delays and false starts on the series, whose pilot was apparently shot last summer, and added that "financial considerations" are rumoured to be behind Kelley's departure.

Kelley's departure will bring ABC Studios on to produce alongside 20th Century Fox Television, with the executive producers of October Road likely to take over as showrunners.

In a month we'll hear that the show's been recast; by mid-summer the lead will have been changed to a woman, and by the time it airs it will be a buddy comedy set in a Pittsburgh bar.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera. He walked 47 miles of barbed wire and has a cobra snake for a necktie.

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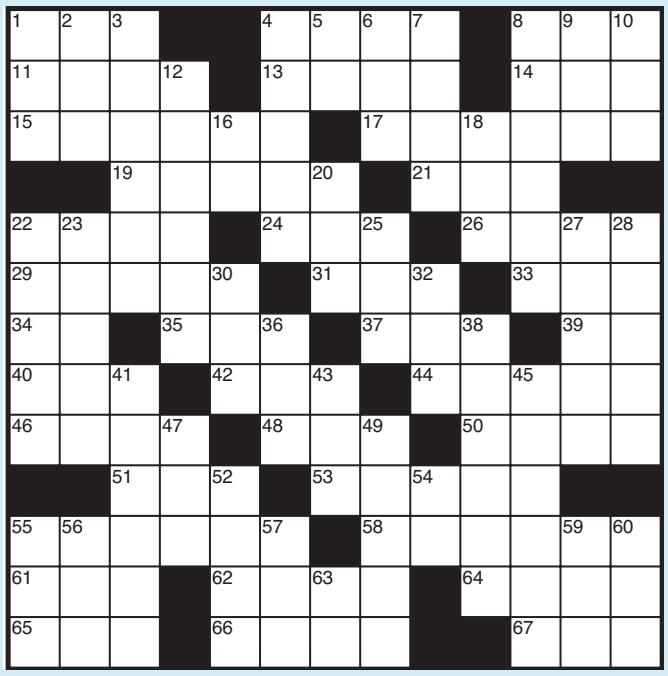
		Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 5/8/08		265	353	2	TVO	Megastructures		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Rocketman "Freefall"		True Meaning of Pictures		Agenda-Paikin
		211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Survivor: Fans vs. Favorites		The Office (N)	Name Is Earl	'Til Death	Back to You	News (N)
		215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
		210	302	6	CBC	NHL Hockey Playoffs -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)						CBC News: The National		The Hour
		214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Ugly Betty (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		America's Smartest Model		News (N)
		212	313	8	CTV	ER "Tandem Repeats"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Grey's Anatomy (N)		(10:02) Lost (N)		News (N)
		218	345	11	CH	The Insider (N)	E! News	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Family in Hiding (2006, Suspense) Brenda Strong.				News (N)
		137	763	13	TFO	Panorama en direct		Les Enfants de Tchernobyl		Martin Roumagnac ★★★ (1946, Drame) Marlene Dietrich.				Volt
		-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
		213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Quills ★★★ (2000, Drama) Geoffrey Rush, Kate Winslet.					The DVD Show	Grill Rm.
		-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Survivor: Fans vs. Favorites		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		(10:01) Without a Trace (N)		News (N)
		-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Name Is Earl	Scrubs	The Office (N)	30 Rock	(10:01) ER (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
		-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Ugly Betty (N)		Grey's Anatomy (N)		(10:02) Lost (N)		News
		219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	30 Rock	Scrubs	Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Medium		News (N)
		-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	Smarter Than a 5th Grader?		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
		-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Britcom Membr	Live From Lincoln Center "Camelot" (N)					N.Y. Learns	Business Rpt.
		297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Smallville "Quest" (N)		Supernatural (HDTV) (N)		CW11 News at Ten		Family Guy
		296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (N)		News (N)	Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
		298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Smallville
news		502	390	26	NW	News (N)	Newman	The Hour Garth Turner.		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
		500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
		509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		Cash Flow		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports		405	417	22	net	MLB Baseball Tampa Bay Rays at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Sportsnet Con.	NBA Basketball: Conf. Semi.	
		400	400	30	TSN	NHL Hockey Playoffs -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)						SportsCentre (HDTV) (Live)		
		411	457	58	OLN	Exploration	Videos	Everest: Man	Jet Set	Mark Williams' Big Bangs (N)		Don't Forget Your Passport		Pilot Guides
		417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Monster Jam (N)		Pinks -- All Out		Low Life	Porsche Drive	Pinks
family		551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Mon. Warriors	Futurama	Shadow Raider	Falcon Beach "Lost"		Mystery Hnt.
		554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Road Runner	Scooby Doo	Futurama	Robot Chicken	Tripping-Rift	Robot Chicken	Robot Chicken	Tripping-Rift
		556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety		602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Divine Design	House	Confidential	Save Us-House	Wasted!	Save Us-House	House
		570	580	29	MM	The O.C. "Pilot"		Muchmusic Countdown			Born to Be	Pussycat Dolls: Girlicious		Punk'd
		615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The First 48 (HDTV)		The First 48		Crime 360 (HDTV)		The First 48
		700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Pavarotti and Friends For The Children of Bosnia				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
		571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Back In	Mariah Carey: Mimi		Popaganda		Gene Simmons	Gene Simmons	Listed
		575	583	38	CMT	(6) Ultimate 20		Project Dad	Project Dad	Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Dedicated (N)
		616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis (HDTV)		Intelligence (DVS)		G-Spot	Exes & Ohs	The Shield "Haunts"		House
		620	523	40	BVO	From the Spirit	In the Mind ...	Man of La Mancha ★★ (1972, Musical) Peter O'Toole, Sophia Loren.					Books-Film	Law & Order
		601	562	41	SLC	Women on Top	Til Debt-Part	Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Last 10	Bulging Brides	Biggest Loser Australia		Rich Poor
		522	506	43	HIS	JAG "Close Quarters" (DVS)		The Color of War		Bloody Victory		Crime Stories		JAG (DVS)
		625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Rick Mercer	The Simpsons	South Park	VIP	Jon Dore Show	Daily Show
		600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Buy Me	Holmes on Homes: Lien on Me		Disaster DIY	The Big Flip	Handyman Superstar		Restaurant
		294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Friends	Friends	Passenger 57 ★★ (1992, Action)			Frasier	Seinfeld
		576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	Black Carpet	Uncle P (2007, Comedy) Master P, Romeo, Cheech Marin.				T.I. Speaks	Com.-Presents	Different World
		627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Night Stalker "Three"		Stargate SG-1
		581	566	52	MTV	MTV Screen	Cribs	4REAL	Making-Video	The Real World		Made Hip hop dancer.		MTV Live
		618	524	54	TROP	Big Screen	Big Screen	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
		603	561	56	FOOD	Ricardo	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Unwrapped	Unwrapped	Secret Life of	Secret Life of	Ace of Cakes
		261	394	60	V	I'll Fly Away		May-December	Keeping Up	Yentl ★★★ (1983, Musical) Barbra Streisand, Mandy Patinkin.				
		621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	This is Avril	American Idol Extra (N)		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		This is Avril
		553	546	65	TRE	Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Nght Grdn	Wiggle-Learn	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
		115	711	101	TVA	Un pitre au pensionnat ★★★ (1955, Comédie) Dean Martin.				Héros "Collision" (HDTV)		Le TVA 22 heures (SC)		Lévesque
		126	730	102	RDI	Dominique Poirier en direct		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Club des ex	Le National	Le Téléjournal
		526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		By Way of the Stars (1992, Adventure) Zachary Bennett.				Traders		The West Wing
		300	601	301	M1	(6) Brick ★★★ (2005)		In Treatment	In Treatment	Hear and Now (2007)		(10:15) Stranger Than Fiction (2006)		
		305	612	306	PIX	(5:30) Below	(7:20) Bandido ★★ (1956, Adventure)			Heaven's Gate ★★ (1980, Western) Kris Kristofferson, Isabelle Huppert.				

critics' corner

CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
Any resemblance to an actual sitcom star is purely coincidental ... maybe. The new episode "Two and a Half Deaths" continues the crossover story begun on "Two and a Half Men." Penned by the sitcom's writers, it has Grissom (William Petersen) and company investigating the murder of a television star (Katey Sagal) who was notoriously difficult to work with. Not that "Two and a Half Men" producer Chuck Lorre would know anything about that. 8 PM on CTV

30 Rock
The grass wasn't greener after all, and Jack (Alec Baldwin) wants out of the yard. When his new political job in Washington, D.C., proves disappointing, Jack schemes with a fellow government worker (Matthew Broderick) to get himself fired. Back in New York, a pregnancy scare has Liz (Tina Fey) feeling the absence of Jack as a friend to lean on. Kenneth (Jack McBrayer) applies to be a page at the Olympics in the new episode "Cooter." 8 PM on ACH-B

Young, Urban, Active
metro



down

1 Haul along
2 Double curve
3 Low cards
4 Mineral analysis
5 Library warning
6 Puffin kin
7 Long river
8 European capital
9 Unit of work
10 Be prone
12 Script lines
16 Nashville loc.
18 Coffee brewer
20 London lav
22 K, to a jeweler
23 Delete a file
25 Did exist
27 Praise
28 Lustrous black
30 Snooze
32 Thing, in law
36 Greet furry friends
38 Come into view
41 Bargain
43 Earth orbiter of yore
45 Heaps
47 Frat-party fixture
49 Sound equipment
52 Advance
54 — -cal
55 Sci-fi computer
56 Charge it
57 Forest grazer
59 Literary collection
60 Harden, as glue
63 CD-ROM unit

across

1 Guided
4 Hot — — oven
8 Blanc or Allen
11 Secondhand
13 Feng —
14 "Exodus" hero
15 Astronauts' gear (hyph.)
17 Inelegant solution
19 Venice feature
21 Be mistaken
22 Hull part
24 Zippy's word
26 Winged Victory
29 Pyromaniac's work
31 Kayaker's need
33 Copy a cassette
34 Egyptian sun god
35 Disparity
37 Diver's milieu
39 Suffice
40 Pale blond
42 Ms. Dawber
44 Bill and coo
46 Veneer wood
48 Holt or Considine
50 Nosegay
51 Hair-styling goo
53 Miffed
55 Kept it all
58 Eucalyptus diners
61 Hole puncher
62 Alaskan seaport
64 Descartes or Coty
65 Sheltered side
66 Rookie socialites
67 Grabbed a chair

previous answer

D	U	D	E	■	Z	I	G	■	O	L	A	F
O	K	R	A	■	E	R	E	■	P	I	L	E
G	E	E	S	■	B	E	N	■	E	D	E	N
■	S	W	E	A	R	■	E	I	N	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	W	A	F	T	S	■	D	E	E
■	L	I	F	E	■	L	I	M	B	I	N	G
P	E	R	U	■	S	A	C	■	Y	O	Y	O
S	N	A	R	I	N	G	■	V	E	R	A	■
I	A	N	■	T	E	S	L	A	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	I	D	A	■	E	N	D	O	W	■
S	W	I	M	■	K	O	A	■	I	R	I	S
H	O	O	P	■	E	H	S	■	B	A	N	E
Y	E	N	S	■	R	O	E	■	S	L	E	W

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ARIES | March 21-April 20
Passion will bloom in the blink of an eye. Help someone who is unsettled by changes. A specialist will appear at nighttime.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21
A confused colleague gets lost in a bureaucratic maze. Toss off a glum expression or you'll be teased. Weather affects your health and wealth.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21
Whatever you do, don't lose your temper. Make some changes in your personal space. Don't get caught trying to influence anyone.

CANCER | June 22-July 22
A rival keeps you from doing something you like. If a man is acting out of self-defence, avoid him. You can get rid of an infection now.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23
You aren't asking too much from life. Make sure others understand your philosophy. Damning items will be discovered.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22
You have the potential to be more dynamic. A sentimental person wants to see you. Spirits will be dampened by a web of intrigue.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23
Try to appear to be more down-to-earth. Some progress can be made despite opposition. Great new opportunities will be tried out.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24- Nov. 22
A problem is given to you to deal with. Someone needs attention when you're at a deadline. You'll find a way to be more fulfilled.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23- Dec. 21
Don't get lost when giving directions. There's a surprise in store for a friend. Too much eagerness might be counterproductive.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
An allergic reaction is caused by food. A reluctance to commit will lead to a breakup. A brash guy will cause a ruckus.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
A wistful person needs more attention. You'll jump for joy after hearing good news. Don't let your talents waste away from disuse.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20
A crazy woman has new tricks up her sleeve. Find yourself a quiet room in which to think. Make resolutions about the future. AVATAR VENUS

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6	2						1	7
			5		7			
	4			6			7	3
		7				4		
8	1			3			9	
			1		3			
9	8						5	1
4				9				2

instructions

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time

Under 13 minutes	Genius
13-17 minutes	Scholar
17-21	Smart
21-25	Pretty good
More than 25	Keep practising

previous answer

7	6	5	3	2	8	1	4	9
1	8	3	5	9	4	7	2	6
9	4	2	6	7	1	5	3	8
5	7	1	8	4	3	9	6	2
6	9	4	7	1	2	3	8	5
2	3	8	9	5	6	4	7	1
3	1	6	4	8	5	2	9	7
8	5	7	2	3	9	6	1	4
4	2	9	1	6	7	8	5	3

This Day IN HISTORY

May 8, 1886: Pharmacist John Styth Pemberton invents a carbonated beverage that would later be named "Coca-Cola."

May 8, 1919: Edward George Honey first proposes the idea of a moment of silence to commemorate The Armistice of World War I, which later resulted in the creation of Remembrance Day.

May 8, 1933: Mohandas Gandhi begins a 21-day fast in protest of British oppression in India.

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Toronto weather

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Afternoon	Tonight	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Variable. 15°	Partly cloudy. 8°	Cloudy. 15°/ 9°	Variable. 16°/ 7°	Variable. 16°/ 6°

Temperature Normals
High: 16.3°
Low: 4.5°

Records
High: 27.2°/1939
Low: -3.3°/1966

Sunrise: 6:00 a.m.
Sunset: 8:29 p.m.
Moon does not set
Moonrise: 8:16 a.m.

TWN incorporates MSC data

celebrity buzz

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Stella calls shotgun on Scarlett's dress

Looks like newly engaged Scarlett Johansson can cross shopping for a bridal gown off her to-do list. "I'm definitely doing her wedding dress," says fashion's Stella McCartney, People.com reports. There's only one hitch before Johansson, 23, gets hitched to fiancé Ryan Reynolds, according to McCartney: "She doesn't know it yet." As for what McCartney has in mind "You know, some kind of dodgy, black thing," McCartney, tongue firmly planted in cheek, joked. "Latex! Latex for Scarlett!" Metro News Services

VINCE BUCCI/
GETTY IMAGES

Lisa Marie feeling 'unusually well'

Pregnant Lisa Marie Presley says she's "feeling unusually well" these days – and addressed an apology issued by Britain's Daily Mail, People.com reports. "I'm feeling unusually well and happy being pregnant thank you," she writes. She added, in reference to the apology over text claiming that Presley was pursuing a poor diet like her late father, Elvis, "When you finally (get an apology) it is never in the same magnitude as a slanderous story. Regardless, I accept their attempt at redemption."

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MICHAEL BUCKNER/
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Third time a charm?

Charlie Sheen is to wed fiancée Brooke Mueller at the end of the month, imdb.com reports. The couple has told In Touch magazine exclusively that the nuptials will take place on May 30.

Sheen and Mueller met at a party in early 2006, just after Sheen had separated from his then-wife, Denise Richards. The Two And A Half Men actor proposed to the real estate agent-turned TV personality last summer.

This will be Sheen's third marriage and Mueller's first.

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MAT SZWAJKOS/
GETTY IMAGES

Davis turned to booze

Sex And The City star Kristin Davis regularly drank alcohol because she was "painfully shy" and she was desperate to be more outgoing in her 20s, femalefirst.co.uk reports. "Alcohol freed me. I was really shy and I didn't know how to come out of my shell," she said. Metro News Services

GARETH CATTERMOLE/
GETTY IMAGES

Brown, Rihanna 'very close'

It's as close to a confession she's going to give (for now.) Singer Rihanna has finally admitted that something more than friendship is brewing between her and fellow R&B heartthrob Chris Brown, intouchweekly.com reports. "We've always been friends," she revealed in Elle's June issue, "but we're very close now."

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Friends lost after Blige breakthrough

Mary J. Blige lost a lot of her friends when she gave up alcohol, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The star has battled both drug and alcohol addictions during her lengthy career, and decided to give up the party lifestyle after meeting her now-husband Kendu Isaacs in 2000.

R&B singer Blige insists she had plenty of friends when she was going out and spending lots of money on drink, but when she became drink-free, all the people she considered close suddenly disappeared.

She says, "When I said I'm not drinking any more, I'm not hanging out any more – it was almost like people ran away from me. They just vanished, and it hurt me really, really bad because there was a point where I believed those people loved and liked me, I really did.

"And that's devastation."

Metro News Services

ANDREW H. WALKER/GETTY IMAGES

The View covers up

Star Jones had her View co-hosts cover-up her gastric bypass surgery, us-magazine.com reports. "She decided to have a gastric bypass operation, but then she decided not to tell anybody," Barbara Walters said in an interview with Oprah Winfrey. "Then we had to lie on the set everyday because she said it was portion control and Pilates," Walters said. "Well, we knew it wasn't portion control and Pilates."

Winfrey responded, "We in the audience go, that's some damn Pilates teacher!"

Metro News Services

JEFF GENTNER/ GETTY IMAGES

Planet Maurie Photo

SPICE IN THE MIX Singer Mel C, centre, drops by the Mad Dog & Billie show on Toronto's 99.9 MIX FM to perform Carolyna, the new single off her fourth solo album This Time. Mel C also performed last night at the Phoenix Concert Hall. To hear her sing and talk with Mad Dog, right, and Billie, go to 999mixfm.com.

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